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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

At "Villa Branca," Robinson Road, on the 11th April, the wife of JOSE M. ALVES, of a son (still-born).

On Saturday, April 14th, 1906, at "Rocklands," No. 7, Robinson Road, Hongkong, the wife of A. W. OUTERBRIDGE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On April 4th, at Shanghai, HUGH KIRKHOPE, Tientsin, to AGNES MOFFAT.

On April 4th, at Shanghai, ARCHIBALD PAINE NAZEE, eldest son of the late JOHN STEWART NAZEE, Shanghai, to ALICE MARY, only daughter of the late ALEX. MACCALLUM, of Shanghai.

DEATHS.

On March 30th, at Shanghai, GEORGE HENRY ROSE, aged 29 years.

On April 2nd, HENRY LEWIS, Yangtze pilot, native of U.S.A., aged 71 years.

On April 4th, at Kobe, whilst on his homeward voyage, J. H. SMYTH, Second Assistant I. M. Customs Service.

On April 4th, at Shanghai, suddenly, WILLIAM BELL, aged 40 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of 13th March arrived, per the ss. *Sachsen*, on Thursday, the 12th instant; and the French Mail of 16th March is expected to arrive, per the ss. *Polynesian*, to-day.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Famine prevails in many of the provinces of Cochin China, owing to the failure of the rice crop.

The final detachment of the Japanese army reached home from Manchuria twenty days ahead of time.

It is suggested that the persistent rumour of Japanese attempts to buy the Philippines may mean an effort to obtain a naval base there.

The total receipts into the Treasury between January 1st and 31st amounted to \$954,795.92, while the payments out were \$1,268,557.18.

Mr. Sin Tak-fan at Mr. Lammert's sale rooms last week secured the properties known as Nos. 349, 351, and 353, Des Vœux Road, the respective prices being \$8,600, \$8,300, and \$8,100.

The *Gazette* notifies the appointment of Mr. E. Osborne as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council during the absence of the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, or until further notice.

Sir Ernest Satow having repeatedly protested against the cancellation of British mining concessions, the Waiwupu has replied that unless a preliminary agreement has been ratified it is not a valid document.

The *Nanfengpao* states that the Grand Council at Peking is considering the advisability of connecting itself with Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai's yamèn by wireless telegraphy, in order to facilitate daily communication.

The extract of meteorological observations made at the Observatory during March shows that the average maximum temperature for the month was 65.9, while the minimum was 58.1 deg. The rainfall for the month was 2.630 inch s.

As already reported, H. E. Viceroy Chou Fu recently memorialised the Throne recommending the limitation of slavery to persons under 25 years old. A Northern dispatch now reports that Viceroy Chou Fu's memorial has received the Imperial sanction.

H. E. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, has been commanded by the Throne to draw up a number of suggestions as a basis for future negotiations with the Powers with regard to a better understanding between Christian missions and the people of the Empire.

Six hundred Annamites recently went to the *mairie* at Hanoi to protest against the measures of the French authorities to check the progress of the plague. The meeting was noisy and tumultuous, but, it need hardly be added, the natives did not gain their end.

News has been received by telegraph that the Consular Reorganisation Bill has passed the U. S. Congress; and that Mr. F. D. Cheshire has been offered and has accepted the post of Inspector-General of Consulates in the Far East, with the permanent rank of Consul-General.

Messrs. Siemssen and Co., agents for the steamer *M. Struve*, have received word that that vessel is stranded off Ocken Island, some 500 miles from Hongkong. The vessel left here on Apl. 6 with a cargo of sugar consigned to Chakiang. An effort at salvage is considered advisable.

Mr. Hori Zonsei, a jeweller, of Okinawa (Luchu), applied to the Osaka Municipality for permission to exhibit a remarkable diamond at the Exhibition opened on April 1st in Osaka. The application was readily granted. It is stated that the jewel is valued at Y. 100,000, and is said to weigh about 47 grammes.

The *Foochow Echo*, reporting an extraordinary thunderstorm, says:—A cargo-boat lying off the bund opposite Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s premises was struck, with rather curious effect. The whole length of the mast was scored or grooved, as if a long splinter had been taken out. Only the top of the mast was burned.

The *Nanfengpao* reports that an earthquake took place during the latter part of the second moon in the Uliastai circuit, causing a fissure in the earth's surface of more than ten li in length and eighty or ninety feet in width. Houses were damaged and many people were injured. In some parts of the fissure "dark coloured water" bubbled up.

The three railways to be built in Shanai, without the aid of foreign capital, are to run:—(1) From Tatungfu to Kalgan, passing through Shioipingfu, Chihusich'eng, and Shu-yanch'eng; (2) from Puchou to Tungkuang in Shanai, passing over the Yellow River; (3) from Pingyang to Tsechou, connecting with the Taokou and Tsechou railway.

Because a for use teller said he would not live to be an old man, a Chinaman residing at Reclamation Street, Yaumati, made a determined attempt to kill himself by cutting his throat with a razor. He made a nasty gash and pierced the windpipe, but did not cut deep enough for the intended purpose, and there is now every chance of his recovering.

Another death has to be recorded as the result of a police raid on a gambling house at Wanchai Road last week. It appears that about fifty coolies were playing or watching a forbidden game when the police entered, and the usual dash to escape followed. One man in attempting to get through a window fell to the ground, smashing up both his legs and fracturing his skull. Another who endeavoured to escape was slightly injured.

The *N.-C. Daily News* learns on reliable authority that there has been a disturbance at Kinku-fu, Ch'ekiang. A cotton mill has recently been erected at this place, and for some reason, unknown, the people attacked the mill, destroyed the machinery and looted the (presumably foreign) manager's house. The manager has left the city. The movement seems to have been entirely directed against the mill, as according to the latest advices the missionaries still remained in the city.

A Chinese paper states the Russian demands in treaty with China to be as follows:—

1.—The retention of the Muho, Kuanying-shao, and other gold mines in Heilungkiang by Russia, because the Russian Government has spent large sums of money on them during the last five years.

2.—The construction of branch lines of the Chinese Eastern Railway in the provinces of Heilungkiang and Kirin.

3.—The granting of special mining, railway, and commercial privileges by China to Russia in Mongolia and Chinese Turkestan under the same conditions as the Japanese have acquired in Fengtien or Southern Manchuria.

H.M.S. "DREADNOUGHT."

(Daily Press, 7th April.)

Any criticism of naval matters by such a well-known authority as Sir CYPRIAN BRIDGE has to be received with respect; and we note in a long letter to the *Times* that the late Commander of the China Squadron does not altogether favour the most notable recent addition to the British fleet. The newspaper writers, experts as well as empirics, joined in a chorus of admiration over the biggest and most formidable fighting machine in the world, as the *Dreadnought* was described. We confess that we share some of that admiration for what we regard as a brilliant achievement of naval engineering. The late Mr. GLADSTONE'S sarcastic remark that fashion in battleships changes like fashion in bonnets was witty enough, and applicable, but it would have applied with equal justice to weapons and many other things which have had to be changed as the science of warfare advanced. We may enjoy the humour, but we should not take too seriously the implications of such clever sayings. It will be remembered that the *Dreadnought*'s long range and great speed in conjunction were the features specially emphasised. At ten thousand yards, the secondary armament of all existing battleships would be innocuous, and her speed is to enable the *Dreadnought* to choose the range at which she can inflict damage without suffering any herself. Admiral BRIDGE sets up a premise that is hardly a premise. He says,

"Now, battles are won with weapons. Speed is not a weapon. It is a factor of strategy and tactics in the guise of mobility, and is no more a weapon than coal endurance, which is also a factor of strategy. Failure to understand the essential distinction between speed and armament has been at the bottom of many mistakes in naval design, and is the parent of most of the enormous costliness of modern navies."

Given two men armed with hatchets of identical pattern, and one of the men able to run faster than the other, there can be no question that while his speed is not a weapon it is a complement thereto that cannot be ignored. Sir CYPRIAN BRIDGE'S point, however, is made on the fact that six of the *Dreadnought*'s ten twelve-inch guns can be fired right ahead, are what the boys' romances call "bow chasers." And on this he argues,

"A ship having to fire her guns right ahead must do so under one of three conditions. She must either be stationary—a condition which need not be considered; or be approaching the object fired at, that is to say, diminishing the distance, and thus resigning the very advantage supposed to be conferred by her speed—viz., power of keeping a particular range; or, lastly, be chasing, in which case the enemy would have been already defeated, or so fearful of being defeated that he would be running away. In these cases the *Dreadnought*'s speed would be of little or no use to her. The cost of giving it to her would have been thrown away."

It is surprising to find a naval strategist putting a case so loosely. It will be seen on analysing the foregoing quotation that Sir CYPRIAN BRIDGE grants the *Dreadnought* only two courses; to fight in a stationary position, or to be approaching the enemy. As the *Dreadnought*'s superior speed to opponents of her own class is assumed, it will be seen that chasing and approaching mean the same thing. Surely when she is getting the range desired, she can slow up or stop, in order to maintain the range she favours. Then the critic takes no account of the other method of utilising her speed, a method of which we heard much during the recent war. Always assuming that the enemy is a less speedy vessel, which at present we are entitled to do, the

pursuit could be continued simultaneously with the obtaining of the desired range, by manœuvring along a parallel course, Togo-wise. We may have misunderstood the postulate, but there can be no mistake as to the ADMIRAL'S remark that in the case of a fleeing enemy, the *Dreadnought*'s speed would be "of little or no use." The Russian ships at Tsushima were running away, as we know, and the speed of the Japanese, so far from being useless, might usefully have been greater, on that glorious occasion. But the ADMIRAL does not put the slightest faith in long range fighting, and we have no doubt it could be carried to extremes that would make naval battles as ridiculous as the French duel. Then again he has been irritated by reading such statements as "ten *Dreadnoughts* equal twenty *Agamemnons*," a style of paper strategy which at one time augured ill for Japanese success, and which took occasion at the time to discount. Sir CYPRIAN BRIDGE thinks too much is made of "inert material," and deplors its "intolerable costliness," while he wants the British naval officer so to study "the problems of war that a knowledge of them will permeate his whole being." But he will not have it that this "dabbling with material" is a war problem. Truth does not always lie between two extremes, but in this case it seems to do so. If the *Dreadnought* has been too extravagantly welcomed, it has also been too severely belittled this time.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

(Daily Press, 9th April.)

The change in the political situation in the Far East consequent upon the recent war has not unnaturally caused some apprehension among those who view with disfavour the alteration between the proportion of European as compared with Asiatic influence in any questions which may in future arise. The fear is expressed that difficulty may ensue from too much power being now vested in the latter direction. The ghost of the old "Yellow Peril" scare has not in fact been entirely laid. There is a feeling that it will be unsafe for foreign nations, if foreign influence is not to continue the dominant force in the Far East, and with the uprise of Japan, this can hardly be expected to be the case. Such a state of the "balance of power" it is surmised may lead to unreasonable demands on the part of China, and there is no gainsaying that there have been some signs that the less informed among the Chinese have been disposed to look upon the changed condition of affairs as possibly affording an opening for returning to the time-honoured policy of withstanding foreign progress. With the old-fashioned China, even the past events would seem simply to indicate that there was still hope that China could re-assert her superiority, and might yet withstand the advances of modern civilization. The idea that the Chinese would get Japan to side with them in such a movement as against the outer barbarians would be in accordance with the belief of many, and no doubt in some directions utterance has been given to such views; and we cannot hold that those foreign statesmen who have taken this contingency into consideration have not had some justification for the fears which they expressed.

It is not to be denied that the result of the recent war has been to make Japan the dominant power in respect to most important questions in these parts—and especially in regard to questions which may arise between China and foreign nations. The fact is undeniable, though

it is one which is not likely to be accepted without some misgiving by foreign nations in face of old traditions as to their influence and prestige, which it is natural they should be disposed to forego with reluctance, and which they can scarcely even now be brought to believe has become second to that of an Asiatic nation. But such is the state of affairs with which we are faced, and it is idle to ignore it. Japan, from her proximity to China, from her intimate knowledge of Chinese ways and modes of thought, from her influence in China through having in part adopted Chinese civilization, must, now that she has established her naval and military preparedness, be a greater factor at Peking than any foreign nation can hope to be at the present time, or indeed than any combination of foreign nations that is ever likely to be brought about. The fact that Japan can if necessary land troops in large numbers in China within a short time stares the Chinese in the face, and this is a circumstance which will always have much more influence upon the Celestial mind than any conceivable amount of moral force or general considerations. If, therefore, any large political question arise, we may be sure that the Chinese will be more influenced by the view which Japan will take than by any other consideration; and it is thus manifest that the future must depend very largely upon the attitude which Japan may be disposed to adopt. It is not inconceivable that upon certain points she might be inclined to side with the Chinese, and it is here that the apprehensions of those who fear the "Yellow Peril" are to a certain extent justified. If we look far ahead there is room for some such apprehension, as a common understanding between two Asiatic nations is *prima facie* a likely thing to arise. But it is not being too confident, to assume that, though such a combination may be possible in the distant future, it is not likely to take place for many years to come. Japan is pledged to an advanced policy and has adopted that line of action, not under coercion but after a full and careful consideration of her national and commercial interests. She is not likely to depart from the line she has thus chosen, and in this respect Japan may be looked upon as certain to be at one with foreign nations in regard to any questions with regard to China that may arise. The attitude which she adopted with regard to the recent threats against foreigners is fairly indicative of her policy generally considered. In any serious questions she would range herself on the side of progress and civilization. She did not hesitate to warn China of her responsibility as to preventing outrages against Europeans, and this may be taken to indicate that she is willing to befriend China and to assist her to advance, but by no means disposed to aid her in any reactionary policy.

This state of affairs may be fairly relied upon for at least some years to come, and so long as this is the case, there need be no fear of any dangerous combinations between Japan and China. Policy has to be directed by actual facts and not by the consideration of distant contingencies; and the facts at present existing certainly point to the influence of Japan being that which is most likely to induce a better state of things in China. If Japan cannot bring China to reason in this respect we may be quite sure that no other nation can do so; and, though some might prefer to see China regenerated by means of direct European influence, it will be better that this should be effected through the medium of Japan than not effected at all.

BRITAIN'S DWINDLING ARMY.

(Daily Press, 10th April.)

Forty-five years ago, Lord PALMERSTON's military adviser said something that is strikingly applicable to the condition of the British Army to-day, which, as our London correspondent telegraphed last week, is terribly short of men. "If you want to go masquerading about on the Continent," he said (to-day we would read, "if you intend to maintain British interests all over the world, in the Far East, in Africa, to the north of India"), "you can't do it with less than 500,000 men. Your Lordship can have that army to-day if you like to introduce conscription" (Lord PALMERSTON did not), "or if you can persuade the country to pay for it." It is recorded that Lord PALMERSTON laughed at that. The final advice then given to Lord PALMERSTON was to support the Volunteer movement. To-day we find considerably less than the 500,000 men needed for a Continental masquerade, if we exclude the native troops whose employment against non-Asiatic enemies sentiment forbids; the Volunteers, who have been snubbed, reduced, and discouraged generally; and other branches who would be available only in dire need. Conscription is as unpopular as ever, chiefly, we suspect, because it is a fashion of "foreigners," and so antipathetic to the British mind. While as to paying for an efficient army, we find the "blue water school" apparently in the ascendant, and ruthless economy the programme of the new government. The basic trouble seems to be that the people have taken too seriously all the talk of universal peace and disarmament. Pretty speeches that have all along been nothing but diplomatic counters seem to have fallen on soft ground, and sprouted again. The very rulers of the people, elected by the people, are bitten; and show signs of approaching practical problems with the optimism of a MICAWBER or a MULBERRY SELLERS. Utopian ideals are bandied about like banknotes, as if they were payable on demand. Of all the "lessons of the Russo-Japanese war," of which we have heard *ad nauseam*, the chief seems to have been overlooked; that the twentieth century, so far from inaugurating the millennium of universal peace, is fuller of fight than any of its predecessors. The European monarch who set the fashion in the art of mealy-mouthed profession, and added one to Holland's group of public talking places, is now, presumably also in the interests of peace, sending messages to his "Buddhist subjects," congratulating them on recent opportunities of obtaining salutary spiritual blessing from contact with his saintly friend, the DALAI LAMA. There may be stray disciples of GAUTAMA, or of PAUL CARUS, who will regard this as a gracious and generous thing in one who has converted so many to the Greek Church at the point of the bayonet; the disciples of nobody in particular will have no scruple in describing it in more contemptuous terms. Even so, we must admit that the Tsar is no worse than the multitude of dreamers who continually do cry peace, peace, where there is no peace. The very apostles of peace, whose business it is to preach peace, have (in China) been lately instituting anxious enquiries for gunboats; and some recent notable exceptions, a group of simple priests who foolishly deemed it their duty to submit unresisting to the murderers, are publicly chided for carrying their doctrine "too far." That is what the British people appear to be doing, carrying these empty pratings too far. The noble sentiments sound well at a tea party, look well in

coloured capitals and a fancy frame on the nursery wall, but they are not politics. With the exception of a few Little Englanders who find preaching pay, and are shrewd enough to avoid too glaring inconsistency, the people have been making (as Sir WILFRID LAWSON would say) Union-Jackasses of themselves, chanting of the Empire on which the sun never sets, and, in an attractive game of follow-my-leader, have been trying to "think Imperially." Lord ROBERTS, perhaps in sheer despair of anything better, has turned his attention to boys' brigades and miniature rifle ranges. Lord KITCHENER has his hands full in India. Lord PALMERSTON is dead. There is ample room for some great man to come to the rescue of a nation of dreamers, to teach them to act Imperially as well as to think Imperially. One of the things that men who walk in the wild places of the world learn soonest is never to bluff with an unloaded revolver; and we fear that the time is coming, judging by the straws in to-day's wind, when Great Britain will be in some such position.

IS THE "CHINA HAND" A COMPOSITE TYPE?

(Daily Press, 11th April.)

A leader-writer in the *North-China Daily News* has managed to stir up a remonstrance by suggesting that the society of Shanghai is uniformly dull. "Is it," he writes, evidently meaning interrogative to imply affirmative—"is it that by mixing all our manners and customs together we have evolved a composite type which is so completely in harmony with our environment that we bend all our energies to modelling ourselves on it?" There is an undercurrent of protest in the whole of the comments from which we quote, as if the writer had been trying to introduce some innovation; such as insisting upon paying for his own drinks at the Club, or wearing a white tie with a dinner jacket, or a monocle in the left eye, or something equally repugnant to received opinion. The writer appears to believe that the Shanghaiander is a composite type, for he reminds us that "the blending of all the colours produces white;" and adds, "not but what white is very nice, but it is uninteresting." Some little knowledge of the community dealt with causes us to wonder how any observant person can think of Shanghai society as either white or uninteresting. With the remonstrance evoked from an angry correspondent we have no concern, for he appears to have misinterpreted the intention and purport of the leader in many ways. Not but what the comments are very nice, we might say, but they are so uninteresting. The description of the inhabitants of Shanghai as "groovy" cannot be allowed to go unchallenged, as all that was said might be said of Hongkong and other Far Eastern communities. The Shanghai and Hongkong communities are alike famed for their cosmopolitan composition, and it is rather startling to hear now for the first time of this dull creature evolved from such diverse constituents. One of the chief advantages of life in either port is that it is not life as lived in a provincial town, where a man's social choice is limited, broadly speaking, to being a gentleman or a "bouncer," or else something else quite unthinkable. In Shanghai or Hongkong, as we know, it is possible to out-SHAW BERNARD SHAW in contempt for SHAKESPEARE, and still receive dinner invitations. There is so much more choice than a degrading alternative. Grooves, of course, as our contemporary ought to have known,

are inevitable; the mistake lay in the very large assumption that Shanghai has but one. It has so many that the man must be eccentric indeed who cannot find his place. As to the dullness of Shanghai dinner parties, it is a regrettably rude necessity to have to remind the critic that so much depends upon the dinner. We can without effort recall occasions when the least of reason was equal to the spread of eatables, which latter, all scorn of Chinese cooks notwithstanding, compared very favourably indeed with the "groovyness" and monotony of many a European menu. This newly-discovered "composite type" would be as unwelcome as are the innovators in a really "groovy" circle, and so far as the China coast is concerned, must be reckoned a myth. One salient complaint of our contemporary is that the "improving conversation" of early Victorian days is never now thought of. We protest: it is—and with a shudder. We fancy it was as much the improving conversation as the port, that left our ancestors so notoriously under the table. Can it be that our contemporary has been misguided by some contributor who went to a Shanghai dinner armed with carefully rehearsed "improving conversation," and who was soured by finding that the "composite types" were too busy eating and chattering to hear him to the end of his flowing periods? Society everywhere is like that; it is not just to call Shanghai names for it. "Visitors who go away," as our contemporary says, "saying that never elsewhere have they found a community so restricted by grooves on such a table-land of uniformity" only say that at the wharf, we venture to guess, because they failed to get a hearing for something equally verbose at the dining table. They are unfair to Shanghai, and, in a subtler sense, still more unfair to Surbiton.

THE NEW EDUCATION BILL.

(Daily Press, 12th April.)

The news conveyed in our exclusive telegram, published by "extra" yesterday and reprinted this morning, of a bill to amend the much debated Education Acts of 1902-03 will not come as a surprise to those who have been following the trend of events in Britain during the last three years. In that period the sectarian, jealousies which have always been associated in England with the discussion of the education question have become more acute. The grumbling and dissatisfaction which occasionally found expression under the old regime developed into open hostility when the Education Act was passed. Heated argument and acrimonious debate became the order of the day. The toleration towards which the spirit of the age was tending was checked, and rampant bigotry and intolerance once more stalked the land. Admittedly, the state of education in England before the passing of these Acts was most unsatisfactory. Compared with those in other advanced countries—even that in Scotland itself—the system in England was very much behind the times, in fact, there was no system worthy of the name. The Education Act of 1870 had proved a failure. The people apparently distrusted the school boards, and, influenced by denominationalism, adhered to the badly-equipped schools where, if the education was not all that could be desired, the children were taught the religious tenets to which so many of their elders attached importance. It was a difficult question to tackle, and

perhaps because of its difficulties legislators hesitated to attempt a solution. However, the last Government apparently felt that the intolerable state of affairs must be remedied, and so the Education Act of 1902 was introduced and passed after a keen parliamentary struggle. Even its most sanguine supporters could hardly claim that the Act was a perfect one, but it certainly bore the impress of an honest attempt to solve one of the thorniest problems with which any Parliament has had to deal. It introduced a system where none existed. It co-ordinated both elementary and higher education, and it placed all the schools under one authority. Of course the Nonconformists did not like the Act. But neither did the parish priests. The Nonconformists felt they had a grievance in having, as ratepayers, to contribute to the teaching in schools other than their own of dogmas to which they objected, forgetting that the cost of the secular education in their own school which they previously had to pay was now thrown on the community, and forgetting that they had gained very materially by the introduction of the new system. On the other hand the parish priest and his school managers were shorn of many of their old privileges, and the Roman Catholics had also to come under an authority from which they were previously free. Broadly speaking, the Act introduced a better system of secular education, but it offered the susceptibilities of Nonconformists and was responsible for the appearance of the Passive Resisters, a body whose actions were never free from bathos, and who were distinguished for that intolerance of which they themselves complained. Undoubtedly it was the opposition to the Education Act, fomented by denominational prejudices, that contributed to the defeat of the party now in opposition, and although the agitation may have been inspired by unworthy motives, no one will regret the action of the present Government in seeking to amend the Education Acts of 1902-3 if it result in putting an end to the wordy warfare which has been waged in the name of religious freedom during the last four years. Without a knowledge of the text of the Bill just introduced by Mr. A. BIRRELL, the President of the Board of Education, it is difficult to estimate its value, but the outline of the objects—establishment of public control of schools, the establishment of undenominational teaching, and the abolition of religious tests for teachers—leads us to hope that, provided due consideration is extended to those who have at considerable personal outlay built and supported schools for the education of their children in the way that they desired, the amendment will introduce a happier era for England. No one, unless he be blinded by denominational jealousy will insist that religionists, however broad-minded they may consider themselves, are the proper parties to have control of the education of the young. It is a question for the State. On the efficiency of its citizens in all departments depends its existence and position among the nations of the world, and this can only be secured by a system of education, free from haphazard methods and thoroughly efficient. Therefore it is eminently satisfactory to read that it is proposed to put all schools under public control. The establishment of undenominational teaching is a necessary corollary, and while it will be displeasing to those who are above all else sectarians, it will be welcomed as an act of common fairness which may lead to a better understanding all round. The same applies to the abolition of religious tests for teachers,

which were quite unnecessary, and though the Bill just introduced is certain to undergo considerable change before it passes both Houses of Parliament, it is to be hoped that it will make unnecessary any future tinkering with the substantial structure of education laid in 1902 and 1903.

CHINESE TESTIMONY.

(Daily Press, 12th April.)

Those "Joss's comforters" who say "I told you so" are deservedly unpopular; but in referring to the recently decided partnership case at the Hongkong Supreme Court we hope to be absolved from all such pettiness if we venture to hail the case as one tending to confirm the impression we have so often tried to strengthen, that no matter how difficult the side-issues may be, this community should take a firmer stand with regard to the registration of Chinese partnerships. The salutary lesson taught by His Honour Sir FRANCIS PIGOTT may even make our Chinese friends and commercial contemporaries incline a more friendly ear to the proposal: at least we hope so. Assuming that the JUDGE made no mistake in declaring that the eight witnesses who swore to the partnership—all men of eminence in native business circles—were guilty of "flagrant conspiracy" and "the most corrupt perjury," there is another feature of the case which has to be viewed with satisfaction. It is notorious that the Chinaman has very little respect for the foreign oath, and, if memory may be relied on, it is not so long since a Judge complained that it was impossible to get the truth out of Chinese witnesses. The value of an oath, as some foreigners still see it, may never appeal to Chinese witnesses, but this recent example of wholesome severity should have its effect in helping such witnesses to remember the possible consequences of false testimony. It is evident that Sir FRANCIS PIGOTT has in his short term of office been made to realise this difficulty attending the administration of justice in this Colony; and in the unusual step he took to guard against trickery—that of demanding statements of fact to be prepared and sealed in advance of the hearing—there was a reflection of the judgment of SOLOMON. Human nature should count for as much as hoary precedents, and the most successful judges are they who study man as well as law. The expedient of His Honour on this occasion may appear too obvious and simple for extravagant commendation; but there is no doubt it is an innovation which will strongly impress the Chinese intellect. Old men who may have been wont to laugh at the easy credulity of foreign judges will tell their sons with gusto how one at least was too wide awake to suffer clever mendacity impotently. It will become a tradition. That is one virtue or idiosyncrasy of the Chinese liar; he can appreciate the superior artfulness that exposes him. Servants who protest, mendaciously but with touching fervour, have often been known to show amusement when detection could no longer be staved off. To return to the material issue, there will always be attempts at deception, even with registration; but registration would place us in a better position to deal with them.

The Germans at Hankow held a meeting of landowners on April 6th to institute a Municipal Council. A vote will follow every Tls. 75 paid annually as municipal taxes, although no man may have more than twelve votes. The Consul was to be convener and chairman. A council of five is to be elected annually.

AMERICAN CONSULAR REFORMS.

(Daily Press, 13th April.)

Americans all over the Far East must be glad, after so long a period of dissatisfaction, of the news we are to-day enabled, by courtesy of Mr. WILBUR T. GRACOR, to publish in our columns. A Bill has been finally passed which is to inaugurate, in a month or two, several wide reforms in the American consular service. Many things have been said privately about America's representatives in China which it was not desirable to say publicly; perhaps some things which should never have been said at all. So much, however, is admitted, that the democratic ideals have never been altogether realised; we have been told that the American consular service was mainly "a refuge for decayed politicians"; and whenever excuses were needed for allegedly decayed consuls, we were reminded that UNCLE SAM was a niggardly paymaster, and that certain things were an inevitable consequence. Quite recently we have had the statement as to inadequate remuneration confirmed by the retirement of a consul who would have been a credit to any service, Mr. DAVIDSON, of Formosan fame. If it be the case, as suggested, that the recent visit of a mob of senators led to the present practical attempt at reform, Americans in their home-land will recognise in time that the newspaper strictures on that extravagant picnic were not wholly deserved. One feature of the new enactment ought on the face of it to be an unquestionable improvement. We allude to the provision of a qualified inspectorate, the five members of which, by travelling from consulate to consulate, will be sure to detect in time any of the irregularities of which Americans resident in the East have over and over again fruitlessly complained. Some inspections in the past have been farcical. Provided that the salaries are reasonable, and this, from the list we give elsewhere, we think may now fairly be assumed, the arrangement to make all fees official is a satisfactory one, and should remove at one and the same time the grievances of clients and their animadversions on consular probity. Consuls are no longer to engage in law or any other business, a prohibition which, while not easy to enforce, will stand in the way of many patent irregularities not altogether unknown in the past history of the service in the Far East. The allusion to the classification of consular officers in grades seems to be partly explained by the examples cited; but we believe there is more behind, less entitled to approval. We understand that the Bill as it now becomes law has undergone an undesirable amendment at the hands of Congress, which refused to relinquish its right to appoint any man to any grade. The original idea recommended was to ensure a constant supply of capable men by making them pass up from grade to grade, by promotion, an excellent system for excluding inexperienced and unfit appointees who might succeed by political jobbery. As it is, good servants in the lower grades will not be greatly encouraged to do their best if they see some stump-orator given a desirable appointment over their heads. The American business man as a type has a great reputation, and may generally be expected to acquit himself well in almost any administrative capacity. But it would be absurd to claim that there is a uniform type. America, like other countries, has its feckless folk, men who are incapable of shining outside the groove in which they

pleased Providence to place them. There have been also, it cannot be denied, American officials who were "too clever" for the offices they have held out here; and in such cases, shrewdness was no more pleasing to their constituents than stupidity would have been. On the whole, the Act is a step in the right direction, a step which will be regarded with interest and approval, but not, we venture to suggest, the last word on the matter.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

9th April.

Seldom indeed do we find so many successive changes in the personnel of the Legislative Council as have transpired during the last few months. The absence of the familiar figure of Sir Paul Chater was noted at the first meeting of the Council this year, and when the next meeting takes place other two prominent members will be missed. Fortunately, their disappearance from the councils of the Colony will only be temporary. The Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, who left for home on Saturday, is succeeded by the Hon. Mr. Osborne, a gentleman whose qualifications are based on recognised business capacity and a knowledge of the duties of the office, but the successor to the Hon. Mr. Shewan, who, we believe, goes on holiday this week, has not yet been appointed. Nor are steps likely to be taken to fill the vacancy until after his departure. Then the Chamber of Commerce will meet to make the appointment. Although it is unwise to prophesy, I understand the only nominee is likely to be Mr. E. A. Hewett, whose position as chairman of the Chamber of Commerce shows that he has the confidence of that body.

Speaking of departures naturally leads the thoughts to the usual spring exodus, which this year seems to be as great as ever. Already the *Daily Press* has referred to the many old residents who have severed their connection with the Colony and gone to enjoy their retirement in the homeland, but not a few are still making their preparations and the passenger lists of home-going steamers during April is likely to be very large indeed. Of course the bulk of those are the fortunate individuals who are setting out on a holiday trip which will only end when they return here a few months hence, and though we envy them we wish them "bon voyage" none the less heartily.

It is a trite remark that "new brooms sweep clean." Certain it is that the recent introduction of several new members has enlivened the proceedings of the Sanitary Board. Previously the meetings were on the whole dull and colourless, but now we look to them to provide some sort of mild sensation every fortnight. I would not for a moment suggest that certain gentlemen are vying with each other in their oratorical displays, but no one can read the reports of the proceedings without coming to the conclusion that more speeches are delivered at these meetings than formerly. Compared with their predecessors, who transacted the business in much less time, the new members are more loquacious; or perhaps it is that pressmen are more kindly disposed and report the utterances of Sanitary Board members at greater length than before. Whatever the explanation be, it is evident that the reports of these meetings now claim greater space in the columns of the press and a fresh interest has been developed in the doings of a body which is the subject of more criticism than compliments.

Not every speaker is able to support his arguments with such convincing proof as was Mr. E. A. Hewett at the Sanitary Board last Tuesday. On that occasion he drew attention to a nuisance existing at the site of the new Post Office in the shape of a collection of foul water which had been allowed to gather there, but his most effective remark was when he charged the Authorities, who issued notices urging steps for the prevention of mosquito breeding, with inconsistency, inasmuch as they themselves were responsible for a most extensive breeding area. Then having dwelt on the offensive nature of the water, he surprised everyone by picking up

a brown paper parcel from the floor. Loosening the string and unwrapping the paper he disclosed to view a tumblerful of dirty water. Members smiled. Some sniffed at it. A medical gentleman played with the "life" on the surface, and passed it on. Finally it rested on the table in front of a Chinese member, who objected to the proximity of "a nuisance," and the tumbler was relegated to a corner of the floor. Still it had served its purpose. The members had been impressed, and Mr. Hewett had the satisfaction of hearing "The matter will be attended to."

Now that the season of winter sports is over it may be opportune to offer our congratulations to Kowloon Cricket Club on having gained the League Championship. After a struggling existence, beset with many difficulties, the Club has now secured a good ground and has justified its claim to the official recognition it received by beating more likely aspirants for the coveted honour and reaching the top with a considerable margin to spare. All lovers of clean, healthy sport will, I am sure, join in wishing the Club a successful career.

A statement made by Mr. Humphreys at the Sanitary Board last week is interesting for its suggestion that the firing of crackers possesses greater value than is generally supposed. Up till now it has been regarded by Occidentals as something of a nuisance, and regulations for its restriction have been framed, but now we ought to reconsider our hasty decision. The firing of crackers may be good "joss pidgin" from the native point of view but to the utilitarian mind it has greater possibilities. It may be effective as a preventative against plague, the sulphurous fumes of the crackers killing the germs of disease, and perhaps may in course of time come to be recognised by the Sanitary Board. At any rate Mr. Humphreys' opinion that the letting off of crackers is of greater value than lime-washing is decidedly original, and while the Sanitary Board may hesitate to accept it, the Chinese will doubtless be glad to learn that even the Western mind is susceptible to the efficacy of the firing of crackers.

The question of water supply comes home to most of us at present, and while we suffer inconvenience from the shortage, owing largely to the wilful waste on the part of many in the Colony, it is pleasant to anticipate the time, not far distant, when the new reservoirs will be completed and all fears as to the probability of water famine will be set at rest. It is interesting to note that the members of the Sanitary Institute visited the new water works for Kowloon on Saturday. This undertaking is one of great magnitude; in fact few people have any conception of its vastness. Although the contractors have been at work on it for four years and the rate of progress has been well maintained it will be some considerable time yet before the supply is turned on. The huge dam in course of construction at Beacon Hill will have a 350 million capacity, but as it is able to store more than the collecting area is capable of furnishing the adjacent hills are being tapped for their supplies, and so a water service adequate for the growing requirements of the inhabitants of the peninsula is assured.

BANYAN.

On the 5th instant a fishing junk was attacked by pirates near Fataushin Island, some twelve miles from Hongkong. Seven men boarded the junk and quickly overpowered the crew of three who were locked in the cabin. The pirates ransacked the junk, obtained clothing and cash to the value of \$45 and departed. As soon as the crew could liberate themselves they reported the occurrence to the police.

A fortnight ago there was a revolt in the civil prison at Hanoi. The prisoners overpowered their guards but were themselves surrounded by re-inforcements before they could effect their escape. Four prisoners were killed and a number injured. It is suggested that the police guard is insufficient, there being only seven European and thirteen natives to guard 253 native prisoners.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday April 6th.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ANOTHER PARTNERSHIP CASE.

The trial of the issue to determine whether Wong Ka-cheung was, at the presentation of a petition in bankruptcy, a partner in the Lai Hing firm was continued.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), appeared for the Official Receiver, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, represented Wong Ka-cheung.

The case was heard before the following jury:—Messrs. H. M. Kendall, G. Koenig, A. E. Slaney, G. H. Schoenemann, D. H. Silas, J. C. Gow and O. H. Schneider.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro was called to give evidence regarding an affidavit filed in action No. 135 of 1904.

Mr. Slade—Do I understand Mr. Almada was the solicitor in that action?

Mr. Sharp—Yes.

Mr. Slade—Then I submit it is grossly improper for a party to an action to call a solicitor of the other party to give evidence of what took place between that party and his solicitor.

Mr. Sharp—It has been done in this court innumerable times.

His Lordship (to Mr. Sharp)—I understood you were going to put in as a fact a certain affidavit; are you going beyond that?

Mr. Slade—I would represent to your Lordship that it is a very improper act to call a solicitor to speak to private words that passed between him and his client, and I object to the solicitor answering a single word of what passed between them; Wong Ka-cheung has a lot to conceal, therefore he raises the objection to prevent the solicitor repeating private conversation that passed between them while Mr. Almada was his solicitor.

His Lordship (to Mr. Sharp)—I don't know what question you are going to put. I was taken by surprise at your putting Mr. Almada in the box.

Mr. Sharp—I will take your Lordship's intimation. The questions are obvious.

His Lordship—If you are going to ask any questions to how that affidavit came to be drawn in the form it was I would intimate adversely.

Mr. Sharp—It is a statement made to an independent person. The statement is also made in the most open way possible, as the man says upon the house steps he is so and so.

His Lordship—You want to lead up to what the solicitor's instructions were?

Mr. Sharp—I submit it would be grossly improper if the other side said Wong Ka-cheung did not make that affidavit.

His Lordship—That is another matter.

Mr. Sharp—Should I be precluded from proving?

His Lordship—I cannot see the privilege can be removed except by the man himself.

Mr. Sharp—I take your Lordship's intimation.

Evidence in support of the plaintiff's case having concluded, Mr. Slade outlined the defendant's case. He said his Honour the Chief Justice made it a condition to the issue being tried that the two parties should state their cases in writing, put them in sealed envelopes and leave them in the custody of the Court to be ready before the trial. The object of that condition was to prevent a case being manufactured on either side. The defendant loyally obeyed that order and in the statement of his case he set up in detail the facts which would be laid before the jury. When the two statements of fact were read to this body they would remark on the extraordinary meagreness of the plaintiff's statement of fact. Both statements were opened only on the afternoon of the day before the trial. The defendant having obeyed loyally the order of the judge, the plaintiffs were in possession of their case before they came into court; and the plaintiffs having sealed up a sketchy outline the

defendant had no knowledge of the details of their case. Wong Ka-cheung's relations with the Lai Hing bank were that in 1872 he first became a partner. He was for some years an active partner, and in 1883 became managing partner. With him in the partnership were associated a number of other people who carried on the business of the firm until 1898 when Wong Ka-cheung, being a very old man, decided to retire, and all the other partners of the firm except one decided to retire with him. His original share was \$600, and for that he received in 1898 \$3,000, so that it had been a prosperous firm. The firm then consisted of the one old partner who did not retire, Kwong Hee, and other persons. It had been suggested that the defendant never went out of the Lai Hing, but Counsel would prove that Wong Ka-cheung transferred the whole of his shares, and call a witness who witnessed the transfer. The question the jury had to decide was not whether there had been any holding out by Wong Ka-cheung, but whether he was a partner in fact, and an admission of partnership was not conclusive, because he may have made it for all sorts of reasons.

Counsel then proceeded to quote authorities in support of his argument, after which evidence was called and the case adjourned.

Monday, April 9th

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

The trial of the issue to determine whether Wong Ka-cheung was at the presentation of a petition in bankruptcy a partner in the Lai Hing firm, was resumed. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. H. Brutton (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), appeared for the Official Receiver, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for Wong Ka-cheung.

Wong Ka-cheung, under cross-examination by Mr. Sharp, said he retired from the business in 1898. In a recent action he did not file an affidavit that he was a banker carrying on business under the style of the Lai Hing firm. That was a mistake on the part of his solicitor, and after the case he advertised in the papers that he had no connection with the firm. His solicitor in that matter was Mr. Wei On.

Mr. Wei On speaks Chinese, doesn't he?—A little (laughter).

Was this affidavit read over to you before you signed it?—I don't remember.

Don't you know that every affidavit is read over before you are asked to sign it?—It was explained to me before I signed it.

And did you take any objection to it?—I told the interpreter I was not carrying on business at the Lai Hing. I was only living there.

And you told him it was not true?—Yes. But he made you swear it all the same—Yes. Did you tell Mr. Wei On you were not carrying on business under the style of the Lai Hing Bank?—I don't remember. I think I did tell him.

You say since 1898 you have not carried on business as a banker in the Colony at all?—No.

Do you remember that in the same action, in June, 1901, you filed an affidavit that you were carrying on business as a banker?—No.

Or this other one?—No. Are these your signatures?—They are not my writing.

Mr. Sharp—In the pleadings of this action it is stated that this man is a banker and in his defence he does not deny it. Tell him that.

Mr. Sharp afterwards said—The case was not heard, my Lord.

After discussion, Mr. Sharp said he thought the evidence was strong enough, in view of his positive statements to discredit the statements of the witness.

Under further cross-examination, witness denied that he had been associated with a syndicate for the promotion of the Canton Hankow Railway, and also denied that in 1904 he had said he was master of the Lai Hing Bank.

Re-examined by Mr. Slade—There was registration of partners in the Colony. He had himself been registered. The document produced was a registration of the partners of the Lai Hing. His name appeared on it.

Ma Fa-ting said he was manager of the Lai Hing bank at the time of the bankruptcy. He became manager in July, 1898, when he succeeded Wong Ka-cheung. The latter had no share in the business after that time and took no part in it, although he continued to live on the premises. He paid \$20 a month for his board and lodgings. He had correspondence addressed to the shop.

Other evidence was called.

Tuesday, April 10th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

The trial of the issue to determine whether Wong Ka-cheung was at the presentation of a petition in bankruptcy a partner in the Lai Hing firm was resumed. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. H. Brutton (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), appeared for the Official Receiver, and Mr. H. G. Calthrop, who took the place of Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for Wong Ka-cheung.

Mr. Slade having the previous day concluded his address to the jury, Mr. Sharp addressed the jury at length, after which his Lordship summed up.

The jury, after an absence of twelve minutes, returned with a unanimous verdict that Wong Ka-cheung was not a partner.

His Lordship—Call forward these eight witnesses.

The witnesses came forward, with the exception of one who was absent, when the Chief Justice said—These eight witnesses have been guilty of the most flagrant conspiracy to defraud the alleged partner Wong Ka-cheung. You have each one been guilty of the most corrupt perjury, and in virtue of the provisions of the law which empowers me to deal at once with such cases I commit each of you to prison for three months.

Mr. Calthrop—Your Lordship will give judgment with costs out of the estate?

Mr. Sharp held that the defendant had only himself to blame in making extravagant statements and he ought not to have his costs.

His Lordship—I can only give judgment with costs. My only regret is that I cannot make these witnesses pay the costs.

In dismissing the jury, the Chief Justice said they would be struck off the list for two years.

The witnesses were afterwards removed in custody.

Thursday, April 12th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE WRONG DEFENDANT.

D. R. Captain sued Mrs. D. Meher for \$12.10 for goods supplied. Mr. D. Meher attended.

His Lordship (to plaintiff)—You have not got the right person here. (To Mr. Meher)—Are you a married man?

Mr. Meher—No, my Lord. His Lordship—Well, you are no good. What have you got to do with this?

Mr. Meher—The first thing I had was the summons. I know nothing about the case.

His Lordship—Is the woman under your protection?

Mr. Meher—Yes. His Lordship (to plaintiff)—Well, you had better see her.

The case was adjourned till next Friday. OBSTRUCTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

A Chinaman, who was sued by his servant for wages due, was severely reprimanded by the Puisse Judge. The action was down for hearing three weeks ago, but on the day of the trial defendant had his servant arrested, for larceny. The charge was not proved at the

Police Court. Meanwhile the case had been struck off the list, but on the following week plaintiff appeared before his Lordship and stated the facts, upon which the Puisse Judge restored the writ.

When the case was called,

Defendant said—I was coming to the Court in answer to the summons when I met the plaintiff and had him arrested.

His Lordship—Yes, I know; on a false charge, to prevent him coming to the Court. Do you not know that to obstruct the administration of justice constitutes contempt of court? If this man brings an action for false imprisonment against you, he will get \$100 damages. Were you coming to the Court that day?

Defendant did not answer.

His Lordship—Were you coming to the Court that day in answer to the summons?

Defendant—Yes. I understood plaintiff—

His Lordship—Were you coming to the Court that day at 10 o'clock?

Defendant—I arrested plaintiff at 9 o'clock.

His Lordship—Yes, so as to stop him coming at 10.

Defendant—No.

His Lordship (to interpreter)—Tell him I don't believe him. I have a very great mind to send him to gaol. I will give judgment against him with costs. If that man brings an action against him he will have to pay heavy damages.

THE PEAK TRAMWAY CASE SETTLED.

It has been an open secret that since judgment was rendered in the Peak Tramway case some negotiations have been in progress between the dissentient shareholders and the company with a view to a settlement of the case, counsel having hinted at the possibility of it being carried on appeal to the Privy Council. We are in a position to state that all the dissentient shareholders have sold their holdings at \$235 per share and that it was a condition of the purchase that the appeal proceedings should be dropped. We understand that these shares carry their proportion of the undistributed profits up to 18th October, 1905, estimated at \$35 per share. That being so, the purchase price represents exactly what was originally offered, viz., \$240 per share plus the dividend.

The costs which, according to the judgment, fall on the Tramway Co., are estimated to amount to \$10,000, but there are certain untaxed costs, we understand, for which the plaintiffs are liable, so that they are financially a little out of pocket, but consider themselves compensated by the fact that the judgment delivered in their favour by His Honour Sir Francis Piggott upheld the principles for which they contended.

ARMED ROBBERY.

On behalf of the Chinese Government Chief Detective Inspector Hanson appeared for the extradition to China of Chan Kam-cheung.

The evidence adduced was to the effect that defendant was connected with a band of brigands who raided a village in the Shintoi district of Kwangtung. The master of a piece goods shop at Chekhsui said he held a feast at his family house on the 25th July last. At 11 p.m. while he, assisted by his accountant, was making up accounts in connection with the feast, a band of 20 men, armed with long and short firearms, broke into his house. They seized him and his accountant, placed them in a back room, put a guard over them and proceeded to ransack the house. The master began to cry, whereupon one of the guard struck him over the head with the butt end of a revolver, and told him if he did not keep quiet they would shoot him. The robbers secured money and jewellery to the value of \$1,030 and 150 pieces of clothing valued at \$1,050, which the rearguard of the band, consisting of 3 or 40 men, carried away. They also forced an entrance to other houses, and besides seizing other goods kidnapped eight boys and five girls. After they left witness' shop he heard about 100 shots fired, and when he went outside some time later he saw two dead bodies lying on the ground.

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of the Hongkong Horticultural Society was held on April 12th at the City Hall. The Chief Justice (Sir Francis Piggott) presided, and among those present were—Mrs. Turner, Miss E. M. Bowley, Hon. Mr. E. Osborne, Messrs. L. Gibbs (secretary and treasurer), S. T. Dunn, J. Barton, A. Carter, F. Howell, J. T. Cotton and Choa Lap-chee.

The PRESIDENT was sorry to see such a small attendance. He said the thanks of the Society were in a large measure due to the generosity of Sir Paul Chater and a small committee of his friends who had subscribed the sum of \$2,000 to the guarantee fund. Their financial situation was very flourishing, as they had a balance to carry forward of \$1,623. A small memorandum drawn up pointed out that although the flower show was an unmistakable success there was still a great deal to be done. The first point he was anxious to raise was the necessity of exchanging seeds of flowers, not only with members but with others. They should also encourage the Chinese to grow vegetables in sanitary conditions; the native gardeners, who attended the show in large numbers, must have seen from the size and quality of the vegetables exhibited that our sanitary conditions were just as possible and successful as their own. He wished to thank, in the name of the Society, the Government of Mauritius for their exhibit of plants, and as the report embodied thanks to all those to whom the Society was indebted for assistance he would move its adoption, likewise the adoption of the accounts. Mr. BARTON seconded, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Mr. GIBBS, seconded by Mr. DUNN, Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Turner and Mr. Griffin were elected to the Committee.

The schedule for 1906 was discussed and several changes made, after which the PRESIDENT intimated that Mr. Howell would act as secretary in the absence of Mr. Gibbs. A vote of thanks to the President concluded the proceedings.

The report was read as follows:—

The Committee beg to present their first annual report on the work of the Society. The Society owes its origin to a proposal of His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan that the old institution of an annual flower show should be revived. With this object a Committee was formed composed as follows:—Mr. J. Barton, Chairman, Miss E. M. Bowley, Mrs. Dickson, Mr. L. Gibbs, Mrs. Hatton, Mrs. L. A. M. Johnston, Mrs. Seth, and Mr. S. T. Dunn, Hon. Secretary. In the course of making the necessary arrangements for the Flower Show it was decided that it would be desirable to form a Horticultural Society which would in future take on the work of organising a show. A public meeting was held on the 8th December, 1905, and the Society duly formed. The Flower Show was held on the 1st and 2nd of February on the upper terrace of the Old Botanical Gardens. The preliminaries were settled by the Committee above named, and the final arrangements were made by the Staff of the Botanical and Forestry Department, on whom, and especially on Mr. Tutoher, a large amount of work devolved. The judging was undertaken by Sir Francis Piggott and Mr. Tutoher. Sir Francis Piggott has kindly drawn up the following Memorandum which the Committee wish to endorse:—"In the name of the Horticultural Society I desire to tender to the Chairman and Members of the Flower Show Committee congratulations on the success of the Flower Show, and thanks for the trouble and care which they devoted to it to ensure that success. The accounts show a balance of \$1,623.00 to the credit of the Society and that 175 persons paid for admission. It is estimated that over a thousand came to the show during free time. These figures, are, I think, most satisfactory. The thanks of the Society are specially due to H. E. the Governor, and to all other donors in kind, and to the gentlemen who subscribed to Sir Paul Chater's list for providing for the show. The unseasonable weather for some weeks prior to the show did much to reduce the number of exhibits of flowers, and retarded the vegetables in many gardens; but in spite of many drawbacks, I think that all the visitors were

unanimous in declaring that for a first show it was an unmistakable success. But the objects with which the Society was started must not be lost sight of, and we must not congratulate ourselves until those objects are secured. These objects are twofold: first, to induce people in much larger numbers to take up the culture of flowers; secondly, to purify the culture of vegetables. So far as the first of these objects is concerned, the society is, I think, justified in claiming that the show has demonstrated that the culture of flowers, even on the Peak is more possible than has hitherto been imagined. In order to aid in the development of the gardens of the Colony it will, I hope, be considered part of the business of the Society to promote the exchange of seeds and cuttings, and also the dissemination of useful suggestions for growing plants by those who have been successful with any particular flower. The vegetables exhibited were in many cases of quite excellent quality, and showed unmistakable signs of careful gardening. But there were few exhibitors. The clause disqualifying vegetables grown in unsanitary conditions undoubtedly precluded many Chinese gardeners from exhibiting their produce. It is to be hoped, however, that many of them, who have now seen the size and quality of the vegetables raised in sanitary conditions, will come to realise that their own methods can be abandoned, and that without loss of profit, but rather with the result of increased sales. The task of inducing them to take this view is not an impossible one, but it is one which the Society collectively and individually must not lose sight of, not merely at show time, but throughout the year. We all much regretted the enforced absence of Mr. Dunn, through ill-health, at the show itself, for all felt that he had been untiring in his efforts to promote its success. The Society is much indebted to the Government of Mauritius, and specially to Mr. Paul König, the Director of the Woods and Forests Department of that Colony, for its very interesting exhibit of woods and economic plants. We hope to do much to promote exchanges of botanical ideas and specimens with other Colonies; and it was in furtherance of this idea that Mauritius was invited to assist at our first show. The plants of *Pandanus utilis* (one of the screw pines), and the exhibit of sugar and other bags made from its leaves, seems worthy of special attention. The bags are very durable even under the hard conditions of the sugar trade and the ease with which the plant is grown leads to the hope that many of the waste places in the Colony may be devoted to its culture. The small special exhibit of cocoa beans and vanilla pods, sent by Mr. Lejuge de Segrain, grown on his estate at Pamplouness, attracted much attention, and our thanks are due to him for his contribution to the show."

The Committee is endeavouring to arrange for the publication of weekly or monthly Notes on Gardening. It is proposed to hold the next show in the early spring of 1907. A provisional schedule has been prepared and is now in the hands of members. Arrangements are also being made for obtaining such seeds from home as are required by members. Attached is a statement of accounts. The best thanks of the Society are due to all those who came forward with donations and with subscriptions to the prize fund and also to the donors of special prizes. It will be seen that without their help there would have been a deficit of about \$500. Some of the expenditure will, however, go towards another show, and it is also to be hoped that, with experience of the last one, a future show may be managed somewhat more economically, and also that, as the Society becomes better known, its membership may increase. Rule 4 is somewhat ambiguous and it is proposed that it shall be altered to read as follows:—

"The affairs of the society shall be managed by a Committee composed of the President, Secretary, Treasurer and seven other members to be elected annually at a general meeting to be held not later than May 1st in each year." The present Committee is composed as follows:—Sir Francis Piggott, President, Mr. J. Barton, Miss E. M. Bowley, Mrs. Brewin, Mr. Choa Lap Chee, Mr. D. W. Craddock, Mr. S. T. Dunn, Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Seth and Mr. L. Gibbs, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom now resign, and, with the exceptions

of Mr. Barton, Miss Bowley and Mrs. Seth, offer themselves for re-election.

The statement of receipts and expenditure up to 31st March, 1906, showed that the receipts, which amounted to \$3,556, included \$676 gate money, \$270 subscriptions for 1906, \$110 for donations to prize fund, and \$2,000 donations towards cost of flower show from the following:—Mr. V. H. Deacon, Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. Mr. G. Medhurst, Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son, Messrs. Caldbeck, Macgregor and Co. Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co. Messrs. S. J. David and Co., Hon. Mr. R. Shewan, Messrs. David Sassoon and Co., Messrs. Arnold Karberg and Co., Mr. A. H. Rennie, Messrs. Siemssen and Co., Mr. H. N. Mody, Sir C. P. Chater, Messrs. Melchers and Co., Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Hon. Mr. C. W. Dickson, all \$100 each; Messrs. Gilman and Co., Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. A. Babington, and Mr. T. Hough, \$25 each. After meeting expenses, there remains a balance of \$1,623 in bank.

THE SANITARY INSTITUTE.

The members of the Hongkong Branch of the Sanitary Institute on the 7th April visited the new works in connection with the Kowloon Water Supply. Mr. E. A. Hewett, who accompanied the party, kindly placed the P. and O. launch *Jeanette* at the disposal of the students, who, under the leadership of Mr. L. Gibbs, A.M.I.C.E. spent a most instructive afternoon. Landing near Laichikok, they ascended the hill, and entered the tunnel recently finished. Its length is 800 feet, and naturally its passage was of some interest. On emerging they were pointed to the three filter beds, and informed that if additional beds were needed it was easy to use the adjacent ground for that purpose. Then they went over another tunnel, for the laying of which the hill had been cut in two, but as the material was soft it was explained that the sides of the hill would collapse when the supports were withdrawn and cover the brickwork. From here they proceeded along the base of the hills, following the course of the pipes, crossing a gorge over which the water was conducted and up to Beacon Hill, where the great reservoir is being constructed. The wall is of great thickness especially at the base, and looks strong enough to withstand a much greater pressure than it will be called upon to bear. The capacity of this dam will be 350 million gallons. The collecting area was explored, and after a lengthy tramp the students were glad to find themselves at the overseers' quarters, where refreshments were served, and votes of thanks accorded Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Hewett.

The party included Messrs. A. R. E. Raven, R. Duncan, D. A. O'Halloran, C. W. Brett, S. R. Boyd, T. L. Clarke, R. Hemmings, R. Hudson, J. W. White, W. S. Bissell, Jos. B. Winter, H. E. Goldsmith, B. L. Frost, W. J. Lewington, H. J. Knight, C. E. Frith, G. W. Coysh, and H. E. Haggard, and Mr. A. Carter acting-secretary.

HONGKONG DEVONIANS AT DINNER.

The annual dinner of the members of the Devonian Society of Hongkong was given on April 7th at the Hongkong Hotel. Mr. A. Shelton Hooper presided over the company of twenty-two, which included three or four guests. Mr. Mowbray Northcote, the hon. secretary and treasurer, occupied the vice-chair, as he has done on each occasion since the formation of the Society eleven years ago. A representation of the county arms, and framed photographs of some of the past presidents of the Society—the late Admiral Butler, Admiral Holland, Mr. Victor Deacon and Mr. E. W. Mitchell—were conspicuous on the walls of the room. The menu represented the nearest approach Hongkong can produce to a Devonshire dinner, and included a junket and apple dumplings. In Hongkong, Devonians (and others) miss real cream and real cider; on this occasion the wine list's most appropriate beverage appeared to be also gin.

After the toast of "The King" had been submitted from the chair and duly honoured,

Mr. Northcote, as secretary and treasurer, informed the company in the county dialect, of the history of the Society and its present satisfactory financial position. The report and accounts having been adopted, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year; Mr. Northcote, in similar manner, was re-elected secretary, and the committee was also re-appointed, with the addition of Dr. W. W. Pearse.

The toast of the evening, "The County of Devon," was submitted in a felicitous speech by the Chairman, who incidentally referred to the impress of Devon on Hongkong as exhibited in the nomenclature of streets and residences, such as Bowington, Leigh Tor, Haylor, Bloton, Linton, Badleigh, Rougemont, Dartmoor and others. Mr. Hooper referred with regret to the absence of Mr. Mitchell, the retiring president, who left for home that day in indifferent health; and he expressed on behalf of the Society a hope for a pleasant voyage and a beneficial sojourn at home. The toast was received with the usual enthusiasm, and Mr. F. A. Hazeland responded.

The health of the "Hon. Secretary and Treasurer," proposed by Dr. W. W. Pearse, was most cordially toasted, and Mr. Northcote humorously acknowledged the compliment, and proposed "The Visitors" coupling with it the name of Mr. G. E. Morrell. The remaining toast was that of "The Ladies," which was proposed by Mr. B. A. Hale, and responded to by Mr. B. Hancock.

The toast list was interspersed with songs and Devonshire stories, Messrs. Woodgates, Goldring, Northcote, Hale and Jacks, obliging in this direction. During the evening Captain Austen, R. N. R., extended an invitation to the members of the Society, their wives, or sweethearts, to take a trip on his steamer, the *Wingchat*, to Macao, on any day the Committee would appoint. The thanks of the Society were tendered to Capt. Austen for the offer, which was left in the hands of the Committee, as was also a suggestion that more frequent meetings of the Society should be held.

VICTORIA SCHOOL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

Mr. E. A. Irving, Inspector of Schools, presided at the annual prize distribution of Victoria School on the 12th April. Proceedings opening with a musical programme which proved very entertaining, the items eliciting much applause from those present. The programme contained the chorus "Forth to the Battle," recitation, "When I keep a school—a little child's notion," action song, "The Seven Sparrows," a display of physical drill; chorus, "Sunny Hours," recitation, "The Infant Orator," action song, "Robin," and the chorus, "Rule Britannia."

The report of the headmaster, Mr. W. H. Williams, was then read. The following are extracts:—By Government Notification No. 74 of the 3rd Feb. 1905, the Victoria School was opened on Monday, the 20th March, 1905, for children of European parents, both boys and girls, with this restriction, that girls over 12 years of age are not admitted or allowed to remain at the school. The school is divided into an infant, a lower, and an upper school. Pupils are transferred to the upper school on attaining the standard of knowledge equivalent to the 5th standard of a public elementary school in England.

During the last week in March, 1905, 17 pupils were admitted to the school, in July there were 33, in December 51, and the last admission number was 60—pupils have left the school, to employment, to return to England and to other schools. While the average attendance has thus trebled itself in twelve months, I am pleased to report that the pupils themselves have attended school regularly and in the aggregate have put in over 90 per cent. of the total possible number of attendances. When parents thus send their children regularly greater justice is done to the children, to their teachers, and to the school. A beginning in hygiene was unavoidably delayed till November. Eight pupils of the upper school took the Government examination in the advanced stage the results of which were not satisfactory, but

in justice to the pupils who presented themselves for this examination it should be pointed out that they were imperfectly prepared, having received six weeks' tuition only; that the average age of the pupils was only 12, and not having received any preliminary instruction they were not mentally fit for the study of the advanced course; they were entered under pressure from the Inspector of Schools, who, on learning that there were not enough pupils to form a team for the competition in the elementary course requested me to send them for the advanced course rather than that at Government school should be altogether unrepresented at the examination. We may, however, look forward to better results next December, as the subject is now regularly and systematically taught, and I have added the elementary principles of physiology and fire, aid to the syllabus, as these branches of hygiene appeal to English children. Last year being the Nelson Centenary the upper school pupils received a special course of lessons upon the growth of the Empire during the 18th and 19th centuries. On Victoria Day, May 24, the children assembled at school and an address was given by me reviewing the chief events during the reign of Queen Victoria, after which the National Anthem was sung and a holiday granted for the rest of the day. During the X'mas holidays the upper school pupils contributed essays for the Lord Meath Empire Day Essay Competition, 1904; five of the essays were authorized by the Inspector of Schools for despatch to the Federal Council. The results of this competition are expected shortly. It has been arranged to celebrate Victoria Day this year by carrying out Lord Meath's suggested programme for Empire Day, and His Excellency the Governor has kindly consented to preside at a joint celebration by the scholars of the Kowloon and Victoria schools at the Victoria School. In response to a letter which I sent to parents in April subscriptions were sent to the School Sports Fund to cover the expenses for the supply of materials for cricket, football, and other games. The boys take a keen interest in their games, at least one match a week has been played, and several fixtures in both cricket and football have been arranged for this year. I attach much importance to organized school games, and all boys are compelled to take part in some sport unless parents for a valid reason expressly desire otherwise.

The following is the prize list:—Infant Class.—Ada Dickson, Anna Ogilvie, Mary Mercer, Ernest Wilkinson and Roy Tatam. Standard I.—Norman Robertson, George Rodger, Frieda Schonfelder, Edgar Davey, Kathleen Jackson. Standard II.—John Rodger, Jessie Rodger, Jessie Stokes and Queenie Tatam. Standard III.—Ivan Gibson, George Baker, Kathleen Courao, Jessie McNeill and Irene Maxfield.

Mr. Irving said it gave him great pleasure in having to distribute the prizes at this, the first meeting of the school. The foundation of the Victoria British School was laid about eighteen months ago, when a petition was sent to H. E. the Governor asking him to start an all-British school on this side corresponding to the Kowloon School which was started for the same purpose at the beginning of 1902. No time was lost; luckily, Mr. Williams being here, they did not have to send home for a master, and the school was started in less than seven months from the time it was asked for. They were also lucky in having a building in which to house the school, because if they had had to build it would have taken much longer. The speaker referred to the similarity between British schools in Hongkong and the cuckoo, remarking that they took over buildings intended for other purposes. For instance when it was decided to start a British school at Kowloon they had no building, but there was a very fine building erected by a Chinese gentleman which place Kowloon saw would suit very well, so took it. Following this precedent it was left to him to suggest a building for this school, and he decided that the present building would be about the best. It was a little Chinese school containing one master and one scholar, and he thought they ought sometimes to sympathize with that Chinese boy, who no longer enjoyed the privilege of a whole school, a schoolmaster and a black-

board to himself (laughter). Regarding housing, he thought he could say with some confidence that the Victoria School was the prettiest in the Colony and as far as outward equipment went left very little to be desired. But a school wanted children. At first it seemed as if the attendance would not be as large as expected, but this year Mr. Williams said the number touched 60, while 55 were actually present during March. At that rate of progress they had every reason to hope the number would equal that of the Kowloon school. The Kowloon school was to specialize the education of girls and Victoria School the education of boys, which the speaker considered the most satisfactory arrangement, because the education of boys must be somewhat different. The little girls in this school were well disciplined and were getting on very well with their studies. Since he saw them drilling with dolls, which they did very well, he hoped when they went home they would ask their mothers to lend them the baby (laughter). It only remained for him to congratulate Mr. Williams on the flourishing condition of the school and to thank the ladies and gentlemen present for turning up in such numbers. He hoped that next year the half of Hongkong would be present at the prize-giving (applause).

At the call of Mr. Williams, the children signified their appreciation of Mr. Irving's kindness in attending to distribute the prizes by three ringing cheers. They then sang the National Anthem, which terminated the proceedings.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

April 5th.

FLOWER BOATS.

The local authorities have decided to authorize the large flower boats to take up their former moorings at the west of Dutton Kolly. The Flower Boats Association has agreed to pay a royalty of \$20,000 per annum for the privilege. The boats will all be painted white, and will take up their new anchorage on the 9th inst. This addition to the revenue will be devoted to the maintenance and improvement of the water police.

ANCESTOR WORSHIP.

To-morrow is the Ching-ming festival, and enormous crowds of people will wend their way to the neighbouring hills to pay the customary respects to the remains of their ancestors. Accidents have frequently occurred owing to the overcrowding of passenger boats and the Commissioner of Customs has issued a special notice to passenger boats and junk owners to comply with the regulations and thus avoid accidents.

MORE NEW CURRENCY.

The Board of Finance in Peking has sent a dispatch to Viceroy Shum stating that the new stamps for coinage, the one tael-five mace, and the one mace silver coins will be sent very soon to allow him to issue new Kwangtung Province currency.

HARD TO ENFORCE.

In order to prevent fraud, the Imperial Post Office here has issued a notification requesting the public to declare the real value of articles sent by parcels post. It has been discovered that jade stone has been declared at considerably under its true value.

STEAM LINE DISCOURAGED.

Two merchants named To Shau-nam and To Sik-fung have petitioned the Sin-Hau Kuk to obtain permission to run a line of steamers between Lui-chow and Macao. The petitioners offered to pay \$2,000 a year for eight years plus a royalty of \$160,000 for the privilege. The petition has been refused, as the authorities are suspicious concerning the object of the trade.

KWANGTUNG SOLDIER.

Viceroy Shum has deputed Woo Hoi-wan, a prefect, to proceed to Japan to study and report on the organization of the Japanese Army. The Artillery, Infantry and Cavalry corps of Kwangtung have been increased by the arrival of 5,024 recruits.

OIL JUNK BURNED.

Yesterday at about 3 p.m. a junk fully loaded with kerosene was sailing past near the Yau

Lan-moon in the southern district. A member of the crew who carelessly threw a match after lighting a cigarette set fire to the cargo. Quite a panic ensued, as there were many cargo-boats in the neighbourhood and the junk was drifting towards them. The junk and its cargo burnt to the water. The other boats managed to keep clear of the burning craft.

April 9th.

GAOL IMPROVEMENTS.

The Nam Hoi Magistrate some time ago received instruction from the Viceroy to repair and improve the sanitary conditions of the Nam Hoi prisons, which were deemed to be in a very insanitary condition. All the openings used to face the south; this has now been altered to west. Ten spacious wards have been built and extra buildings to accommodate the guardians and their families have also been erected. In the plans, two hospital wards, two kitchens, and 15 cells are provided for. The gaol-keepers think, however, that there are too many openings in the new buildings and that prisoners stand now a better chance to escape owing to the numerous openings provided for better ventilation. These gaols were notoriously unhealthy.

"MUSHROOM" MISSIONS.

The Viceroy has issued the following proclamation for the protection of missionaries, churches, etc.:

"Churches have become very numerous of late, springing up like mushrooms all over the Kwangtung Province, and very frequently both the civil and military officials are not aware of their existence in the localities under their jurisdiction and are consequently unable to extend their protection in times of emergency, resulting in international disputes. The T'ipao of the various districts are hereby instructed to report to the authorities the following particulars, viz.: Number of missionaries, number of converts, and nationality of the mission societies that own the churches and buildings. The local authorities shall report same at once, so that stringent measures may be taken for their protection."

TERRIBLE DROWNING ACCIDENT.

On the 5th inst. a passenger boat towed by a steam launch was leaving here for Ching Yuen. As the following day was the Ching Ming festival, the boat was full with passengers. When she was passing the neighbourhood of Si Nam, in the Sam Sui district, the rope by which she was towed broke. Owing to this she capsized. It is reported that only three men were saved out of more than 400.

A SHAM TRIAL.

Yuan Shu-fau, Taotai, who was Taotai in Shanghai some time ago and was implicated in the recent riot at Shanghai, has been delegated by Viceroy Chau Fook to proceed to Canton to investigate the recent dispute between the Viceroy and the people. Viceroy Shum is sending a deputation to Hongkong to receive him and making elaborate preparations for his entertainment in Canton. It is probable that he and his guest will succeed in finding some petty officials to act as scapegoats.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN FORMOSA.

LATEST LIST OF CASUALTIES.

The Formosa correspondent of the *Osaka Shimpō* sends the following returns of the loss of life and property destruction ascertained up to the 25th ultimo:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------|-------|
| Crushed to death ... | Japanese | 13 |
| | Natives | 1,005 |
| Severely injured ... | Japanese | 24 |
| | Natives | 1,873 |
| Houses collapsed ... | Totally | 4,214 |
| | Partially | 2,523 |

The correspondent writes that the casualties were much heavier among the women than among men, more than two-thirds of the list representing women. This is due to the fact that the feet of the women are crippled similarly to those of Chinese women.

On the 26th ult. the list of casualties rose to 1,227 in killed and 2,329 in injured, 5,566 in the number of houses totally destroyed, and 10,938 in the number partially destroyed.

COMPANIES.

CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO.

The fifth annual general meeting of shareholders in the China Light and Power Company was held on April 7th at the office of the general managers, Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Co. The Hon. Mr. R. Shewan presided, and the others present were—Sir Paul Chater, Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs. H. P. White, A. Babington, Fang Wa chun, and R. Hancock (secretary).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands since 23rd March will now with your permission be taken as read. The gross profit on our working at Canton and Kowloon is \$61,184.97, after paying interest on borrowed capital amounting to \$22,218.80, allowing for depreciation \$7,395.35, and deducting other sundry charges there remains \$31,219.89, out of which we recommend paying a dividend of six per cent. equal to \$30,000, and carrying forward \$1,219.89 to next account. As stated in the report the result would have been considerably better had it not been that the boycott at Canton through a mistaken notion was directed against us, which error it took us some time to dissipate, and for the high price of coal which was at times as much as 30 per cent. higher than it was the previous year. Fortunately, the former trouble has quite passed away, and as for the latter I am glad to say that the price of coal shows sign of being on the turn, and now that the war demand is over there seems no reason why the market should not return to normal figures. The returns from Kowloon though still in modest figures show a marked increase, and will we have no doubt continue to increase year by year. The gross returns from Canton were some 31 per cent. higher than those of the previous year, but nevertheless our workmen are still kept constantly employed on new installations, while we have a very large field for our operations left untouched. Our sales of current expand every month; in fact that expansion is only limited by scarcity of skilled labour, we having to simply train our workmen ourselves. With a concession from the Chinese Government for lighting up the city of Canton and areas beyond, our future prospects seem fully assured, but of course to keep up with the demand we have had to increase our plant, and to spend money. You will see that besides about \$34,000 expended on lines at Kowloon and Canton we have spent some \$70,000 at Canton on buildings and machinery. With this money we have installed another "Engine Alternator Set," a Babcock and Wilcox boiler and superheater and smaller accessory plant. Further we had to extend the building containing our engines and boilers, and in doing so we had considerable difficulty, owing to the lack of provision for extension made by the original Chinese proprietor. In fact we began to fear that we should either have to remove the works altogether, or split the plant up into separate stations, neither course being desirable, but fortunately owing to the bunding scheme, and by filling in a creek we have been able to purchase a piece of land which although expensive will afford us a compact power station quite large enough for all ordinary requirements. The extension work on this site was necessarily expensive, as a hard bottom for our foundations could not be found, so the heaviest description of piling was necessary. The capital expenditure on lines is due to our pushing our mains into all positions in the city, where there is likely to be a good demand for our light. It also includes the cost of a submarine cable across the river to Honam. We have still to keep on, with the demand. In making these extensions, we have, as coal has proved such an item, felt justified in turning our attention to some of the latest systems of generating electricity from fuels other than coal; as a result of these investigations we decided to order a Diesel oil engine; this type of engine works on a new principle and is without doubt very economical, and we feel confident from the enquiries we have made that we shall effect a

considerable saving in fuel by this change in our type of engines. We have therefore placed an order for one 200 h.p. Diesel engine alternator set, which will work side by side with our present steam sets. Our weak point is still our finances. You will see that by paying heavy commission we managed to float \$100,000 of new capital which we could not otherwise dispose of, and that in this way we have improved our position, and reduced our bill for interest which should be still less this year, but money on loan cannot be always depended upon, and if we are able to do all the business which we can see before us, we must get more money. That probably will not be easy, but it should not be impossible, for we hold a valuable concession, our business is now on a paying basis, and our prospects for the future are certainly very good.

No questions were asked, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Dr. NOBLE, the report was adopted.

The Consulting Committee, consisting of Sir Paul Chater, Dr. Noble, and Mr. H. P. White, were re-elected on the motion of Mr. FANG WA-CHUN, seconded by Mr. BABINGTON.

Sir PAUL CHATER moved, and Mr. WHITE seconded, the re-election of Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. O'D. Gourdin as auditors, which was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN having intimated that dividend warrants would be ready on Monday, the meeting separated.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the fortieth ordinary meeting, to be held at the company's offices on April 28th, reads:—

In conformity with the special resolutions duly passed and confirmed at the extraordinary general meetings of the company held on the 16th February and 10th March last, the directors have now to lay before the shareholders the accompanying statement of accounts as at the 31st December, 1905.

The working account for the eight months from May to December shows a balance at credit of \$598,294.17, out of which the directors recommend the payment of an interim dividend to shareholders of 12 per cent. (\$3 per share) absorbing \$72,000; a bonus of 15 per cent. to contributors on bonus-bearing contributions, absorbing about \$60,000, the remainder being carried forward to be dealt with at the next annual meeting.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. R. Linton having retired from the Board, Mr. E. Ormiston accepted the invitation of the directors to rejoin the Board, and his appointment will be submitted for the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. E. Goetz and A. J. Raymond retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs. T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries, who offer themselves for re-election.

H. W. SLADE,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1905.

| ASSETS. | | \$ | c. |
|--|--------------|-------------|----|
| Fixed deposits with banks in Hongkong | ... | 870,000.00 | |
| Invested in mortgages of properties in Hongkong | ... | 3654,000.00 | |
| in Shanghai | ... | 347,368.41 | |
| Bonds of Chinese Imperial Government, 1886, 106 bonds at Tls. 25 = Tls. 26,500 | ... | 37,192.98 | |
| Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., debentures | ... | 5,500.00 | |
| London branch:— | | | |
| Cash in hand and in course of collection | \$251,271.30 | | |
| Fixed deposits with banks | ... | 157,939.11 | |
| Travancore tea estates debentures | 9,746.19 | | |
| Imperial Japanese 6 per cent. sterling loan | ... | 49,817.41 | |
| Imperial Japanese 4 per cent. sterling loan | ... | 5,118.75 | |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| South Australia 4 per cent. inscribed stock of 1884 ... | 51,654.82 |
| Queensland 4 per cent. debenture bonds ... | 49,949.24 |
| Chinese government 5 per cent. customs loan ... | 70,270.05 |
| Leasehold property, 73 Cornhill ... | 234,583.24 |
| | 900,660.23 |
| Australasian branches:— | |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit | 308,262.17 |
| Shanghai branch:— | |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit | 156,539.85 |
| Yokohama branch:— | |
| Cash in hand, in course of collection, and on fixed deposit | \$67,340.42 |
| Imperial Japanese exchequer bonds, 1905 ... | 55,097.09 |
| | 122,437.51 |
| Interest accrued, but not yet payable ... | 33,476.23 |
| Sundry leaseholds ... | 27,313.09 |
| Furniture at head office and branches ... | 21,613.91 |
| Sundry debtors ... | 78,244.87 |

| LIABILITIES. | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Capital subscribed ... | \$2,000,000.00 |
| Paid up \$25 on 24,000 shares ... | 600,000.00 |
| Reserve fund ... | 950,000.00 |
| Reinsurance fund ... | 242,692.85 |
| Exchange fluctuation account ... | 182,187.38 |
| Investment fluctuation account ... | 66,293.67 |
| Underwriting suspense account ... | 274,151.50 |
| Dividends outstanding ... | 45,468.89 |
| Sundry creditors ... | 103,522.54 |
| Balance of working account ... | 598,294.17 |

WORKING ACCOUNT

FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1905.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| To losses ... | \$ 336,145.01 |
| To charges, survey fees, &c. ... | 156,779.54 |
| To directors' and auditors' fees at head office and branches | 1,828.17 |
| To balance ... | 598,294.17 |
| Total ... | \$1,093,046.88 |
| By premium, less re-insurances, return premium and commissions ... | \$1,010,156.46 |
| By interest ... | 82,567.20 |
| By transfer fees ... | 323.22 |

Total ... \$1,093,046.88

RESERVE FUND.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| To balance on 31st October, 1905 ... | \$ 950,000.00 |
| Total ... | \$ 950,000.00 |
| By Balance on 31st December 1905 ... | \$ 950,000.00 |
| Total ... | \$ 950,000.00 |

Sterling exchange taken at 2/4 per dollar

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirty-third ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's offices at noon on Saturday, April 28th, says:—

The Board has now to lay before the shareholders a balance sheet containing a summary of the property and liabilities of the Society on the 31st December, 1905, and a statement of the 1905 working account to the same date.

It has been found inconvenient to continue the system hitherto adopted of closing the working account on the 30th June of the following year, and it is proposed not to close the 1905 working account until the 31st December, 1906. It is also proposed to hold in future the annual meetings in April of each year instead of in October.

1905 account.—The balance at credit of working account on the 31st December, 1905, was \$2,792,271.71 as per annexed statement.

The Board recommends that an interim dividend of \$30.00 per share be paid to shareholders out of interest, absorbing \$300,000.00, and that a bonus of 20 per cent. be paid to contributors, absorbing about \$275,000.00, and that the remainder be carried forward to be dealt with in April, 1907.

New issue of shares.—Since the 31st December, 1905, the Society has obtained power to increase its capital by the creation of 2,400 additional shares, to be issued, so far as shall be necessary for the purpose, to the shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, in exchange for their shares in that Company. Nearly 2,000 of these new shares have already been issued and will rank *pari passu* with the old shares for the interim dividend recommended above.

To dividend thus paid on these new shares will be charged as part of the purchase price of the China Traders' shares taken in exchange for them, and not against the profits of the year 1905. Similarly any dividend which may be received from the China Traders' Insurance Company in respect of the year 1905 on the shares purchased by the Society will be credited against the purchase price of the shares.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with clause 86 of the articles of association Mr. A. Forbes and Mr. H. W. Slade retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. R. Lowe retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

H. W. SLADE,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET.

ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1905

| Dr. | \$ | c. |
|--|----------------|------------|
| To capital 10,000 shares of \$250 each—\$2,500,000 upon which \$100 per share called and paid up ... | 1,000,000.00 | |
| To reserve fund.— | | |
| Silver ... | \$2,000,000.00 | |
| Sterling £40,000= | 389,847.72 | |
| | 2,389,847.72 | |
| To unclaimed bonus and dividend | 27,799.36 | |
| To exchange fluctuation account ... | 299,977.84 | |
| To investment fluctuation account | 31,153.29 | |
| To working account 1905, balance | 2,792,271.70 | |
| To reinsurance fund, £118,382.55 | 1,153,844.66 | |
| To underwriting suspense account ... | £58,410.94 | 569,279.66 |
| To sundry creditors ... | 318,183.20 | |
| To bills payable ... | 15,517.65 | |

Total ... \$3,597,825.08

Cr.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| By cash on current account at Hongkong ... | 58,022.29 |
| By cash on deposit with banks in Hongkong, Shanghai and Singapore ... | 521,787.72 |
| By amount invested in mortgages, debentures and other securities in Hongkong, Shanghai and Singapore ... | 2,940,613.82 |
| By amount invested in London, viz:— | |
| Deposited in banks ... | £103,000. 0. 0 |
| Other investments ... | 289,684 10. 1 |
| | £392,684 10. 1 |
| By amount invested in Melbourne, viz:— | |
| Deposited in banks ... | £ 2,000. 0. 0 |
| Other investments ... | 16,421. 8. 0 |
| | £ 18,421. 8. 0 |
| By amount invested in Yokohama | 179,536.08 |
| By amount at debit of branches and agencies ... | 109,547.21 |
| By sundry debtors ... | 769,151.74 |
| By furniture and office leases ... | 161,817.77 |
| | 30,169.53 |

Total ... \$3,597,825.08

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1905.

ON 31st DECEMBER, 1905.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| To nett premium from 1st January to 31st December, 1905 ... | \$4,784,834.08 |
| To interest ... | 368,485.39 |
| To exchange ... | 11,000.92 |
| Total ... | \$5,164,320.39 |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| By agency commissions ... | \$108,932.99 |
| By head office, branches and agency charges ... | 426,051.80 |
| By remuneration for year ending 31st December, 1905, to directors, committee and auditors ... | 27,347.97 |
| By losses and claims paid, ... | 1,809,695.92 |
| By balance ... | 2,792,271.71 |

Total ... \$5,164,320.39

Sterling Exchange taken at 2/4

THE YANGTSE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

We give the following further particulars from the report which reached us yesterday:—

Working Account 1904 and Former Years.—This account shows a credit balance of \$323,346.48 against \$238,190.63 on 31st December, 1904. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend to shareholders of 20 per cent. out of this account, and the transfer of \$50,000 to the credit of reserve fund and \$50,000 to the credit of R/Insurance fund. Dividend of 20% (= \$12 per share) \$ 96,000.00 To Reserve Fund ... 50,000.00 To Re-Insurance Fund ... 50,000.00 Balance Carried Forward ... 127,346.48

\$323,346.48

Working Account, 1905.—The Net Premium earned during 1905, after deducting return Premium, R/Insurance Premium, etc., amount to \$931,714.06 against \$1,110,534.86 during 1904, and the account shows a balance at credit of \$532,334.25. The directors recommend the payment of a special dividend to shareholders of 5 per cent., \$3 per share, which will absorb \$24,000, to be paid out of interest earned during 1905, and to carry forward the balance which will amount to \$508,334.25.

The dividends will be paid in Taels at exchange 73. \$15 per share at exchange 73=Taels 10.95 per share.

Reserve fund.—After crediting the fund with \$50,000 as recommended above, the reserve fund will amount to \$800,000.

Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Account.—This account now shows a balance of \$15,527.93 at credit of same.

Sterling exchange has been taken at 2/10, (the demand rate on 30th December, 1905), and the relative value between dollars and Taels at 73.

THE YANGTSE WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LTD.

At the annual general meeting of this company on March 31st the Chairman said:—I think we may congratulate ourselves on another very successful year, and our prospects, owing to the steady expansion of the steamer lines whose permanent support we are assured of, seem to be entirely satisfactory. Our buildings, pontoons, and lighters have, as usual, been kept in first-class repair and the cost thereof has been charged to revenue, so that our reserve account has not had to be drawn upon. If the accounts as before you should be passed, reserve account will then stand at Taels 30,000, or, say, 12 1/2 per cent. of our paid-up capital. In common with other wharves, we have suffered from last year's typhoon, but our damage has all been made good out of revenue, and I am glad to say that the damage done to goods stored with us has also been inconsiderable. As you will no doubt already have heard, your directors have bought the land on which the Company has hitherto been carrying on its business at what we think is a reasonable figure, and in accordance with the articles of association they have availed themselves of their powers to create debentures bearing interest at 7 per cent. per annum and secured on the company's entire property to the extent of Tls. 350,000. Tls. 250,000 of which is to be issued at once. These debentures, being an absolutely first-class investment, have been offered to the shareholders in the first place; whatever amount the latter do not care to take up has already been underwritten at par and free of commission. It is my duty to state that difficulties have arisen

In regard to the transfer of the property to the company, we are advised, however, that our position is impregnable and that the shareholders need not be under any apprehension.

PHILIPPINE COMPANY, LTD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Philippine Company, Ltd., was held at the office of the National Bank of China on the 11th April. Mr. J. F. Wright, secretary of the Company, presided, the others present being—Messrs. J. C. Moxon, E. Haskell, J. E. Joseph, Chan Ki-pan, and Leong Pak-lung.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the following resolution:—That the firm of Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. be appointed General Managers of the Company in the place of Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts, and that Article 56 of the Company's Articles of Association be altered by substituting the words "E. S. Kadoorie & Co." for the words "Benjamin, Kelly and Potts."

Mr. MOXON seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen. That is all the business.

AMERICAN CONSULAR REFORM.

We are informed by Mr. Wilbur T. Gracay, Acting American Consul General, that he is in receipt of news by private telegram to the effect that the Bill providing for the reorganization of the American Consular Service has passed the two Houses of Congress and become law, and will probably go into effect about the 1st July.

This Bill makes many changes for the service. It provides for the classification of Consular officers in grades; gives the President authority to transfer officers from one station to another; provides an inspection service with five Inspectors, who will rank as Consul General, receiving compensation of \$5,000 per annum, and all travelling expenses; requires that all clerks at Consulates shall be American. It prohibits Consuls engaging in law or other business, and requires that all Consular fees whether official or unofficial are to be turned into the Treasury.

There are seven classes of Consuls General, the first class being only two, London and Paris. Under the second class are Hongkong, Shanghai, Berlin, Havana, Hamburg, and Rio de Janeiro with salaries of \$8,000 gold per annum.

Yokohama comes under the third class with \$6,000 per annum.

Canton and Tientsin under the fourth class with \$5,500 per annum.

Chefoo, Hankow, Mukden, Newchwang, and Singapore come under class five with \$4,500 per annum.

There are ten classes of Consuls. Liverpool, Manchester, Antwerp, and Marseilles cover the first three classes.

Under the fourth class is found Kobe with \$5,000 per annum.

Under the fifth class are Amoy and Foochow at \$4,500 per annum.

Under the sixth class are Antung, Hangchow and Nanking at \$4,000 per annum.

Under the seventh class Nagasaki with \$3,500 per annum.

The Bill provides that inspection shall be made of Consulates under instructions from the Secretary of State, and that each Consular office shall be inspected at least once in every two years.

Every Consular officer will be required whenever application is made to him therefor, to administer to or take from any person any oath, affirmation, affidavit, or deposition, and to perform any other notarial act which any notary public is required or authorized by law to do within the United States; and for every such notarial act performed he shall charge in each instance the appropriate fee prescribed by the President, which will all be official and turned into the Treasury of the United States.

The sole and only compensation that Consular officers shall be allowed to receive will be the regular salaries fixed by law.

The Bill also provides that every Consular officer shall be provided and kept supplied with

adhesive official stamps, on which shall be printed the equivalent money value of denominations and to amounts to be determined by the State Department, and whenever a Consular officer is required to perform any consular or notarial act, he must affix and duly cancel an adhesive stamp equivalent in value to the fee prescribed, and no such act shall be legally valid within the United States unless such stamps are affixed.

CONSUL-GENERAL SCOTT RETIRES FROM CHINA.

The Hongkong correspondence of the *N. C. Daily News* contains the following pleasant references:—All who know Mr. James Scott, the British Consul-General for South-China, regard him as a strong man, and one of the best types of our race. Perhaps somewhat brusque at times, perfectly straightforward at all times, he is ever genial at heart, and has devoted himself to the best interests of Great Britain with assiduous persistency and considerable ability. He came to China thirty-five years ago, and after passing through the usual grades of preparation, and acquiring the necessary experience, he was first appointed in charge of Kiungchow in 1877. Mr. Scott's genial hearty friendliness will be missed by many friends in Canton, but he will be remembered, and many will wish him yet many days and ripe enjoyment in the land of his fathers.

Mr. Scott's successor is to be Mr. Mansfield, C.M.G. He comes from Amoy. He is not unknown to Canton, for he was there in 1893 as Acting Consul. He will therefore easily take up the threads of the work, and carry it on with perfect ease. He was made C.M.G. in November 1902. Reports say that a strong man is needed there just at present to keep a keen eye on the anti-foreign Viceroy, and if necessary to switch him back from his vagaries to the approved path of progress.

A DIPLOMATIC CONSUL.

The Magistrate of the Changtai district in Fukien has received a communication from the British Consul in Foochow in which he states as follows: I hear that in your district a lawsuit is going on regarding some land dispute between some Roman Catholic converts and a Protestant convert named To Ah Tze. I would observe that all converts are equally subjects of China, and whatever litigations they may enter into, excepting those which concern their religious beliefs, the officials should adjudge them on the principle of equity and justice. This power belongs to the Chinese officials, and not only mission ries may not interfere, but even Consuls cannot exceed their duty by concerning themselves in such cases. I have always known you as a man of ability and discrimination, and you should understand fully your right in such matters. I request, therefore, that you will understand that the present lawsuit is entirely between Chinese converts, and I hope you will adjudicate it in strict accordance with the principles of equity and fairness."

THE CHANGSHA CASE.

A DISCONCERTING ENDING.

After a long silence on the subject of Mr. Bennertz, the British merchant whose case has been made a precedent in connection with the opening of Changsha, we now learn that the Waiwupu has informed the British Minister that there is no objection to foreign merchants residing in and doing business in the native city of Changsha, but that so far as Mr. Bennertz is concerned he is a man of bad character and cannot therefore be allowed to remain there. The British Minister is reported to have replied, as we should imagine he would do, that as it is admitted that residence and trade in the native city of Changsha is not contrary to China's voluntary declaration of the place being "open to foreign trade," Mr. Bennertz is entitled to remain there should he choose to do so, but if he misbehaves in anyway or has done anything of which the Chinese can justly complain, they have the right of appeal to the British Consul there who will duly investigate the charge.

It seems rather curious that this implication against Mr. Bennertz should only be brought forward at this date after he has been in the place over two years; and still more curious that if his conduct is open to question he should have had so much support given him by his compatriots in Shanghai. It is true that in supporting his case the merchants in Shanghai have been influenced less by personal interest than the desire to uphold a principle, but it is not to be supposed that this support would have been forthcoming had Mr. Bennertz's credit as a man and a trader not borne investigation. He has been placed in a difficult and very trying position, and it is quite possible that under the persecution to which he has been subjected, he may have acted impetuously and indiscreetly on occasion, though nothing to this effect has come to our knowledge. As, however, it will probably be some time before any other merchant will be found to take his place we hope that he will find it possible to remain and carry to a successful issue the stand he has been supported in making.—*P. and T. Times*.

Since reprinting the foregoing, there has been a further development. We repeat from our daily edition:—

The struggle between Mr. Bennertz and the Changsha native authorities, which has continued without cessation during the past eighteen months, has had a curious sort of settlement. Finding they could not drive Mr. Bennertz from the precincts of their city by either request, threats, or illegal tactics, they have at last gained their desires by buying out their unwelcome visitor. They have paid over to Mr. Bennertz a sum of about Tls. 25,000 to compensate him for his loss of prestige and business, and Mr. Bennertz has signed an agreement promising not to return to Changsha for twenty years. Both parties consider they have scored, but really both have miserably failed. The Chinese officials, by treating with an individual instead of a government, have not succeeded in proving their city closed to foreign commerce, while by signing such a contract and promising not to return to Changsha for twenty years Mr. Bennertz has disappointed the British and other merchants who helped him to fight for a principle. As Mr. Bennertz claimed to have been ruined over this affair, we can think of excuses for taking the money, but we cannot feel pleased that he did so. Fortunately his action does not alter the fact that Changsha is an open port.

DISTINGUISHED SIAMESE VISITORS.

A distinguished party from Siam is at present staying at the King Edward Hotel. It includes Prince Na-konchaisi of Siam, Major General Phga Kam Kamheng, Lieut. Colonel Mom Nasenor and Major Luang Damrong. Through the courtesy of the Editor of "Who's Who in the Far East," who has supplied us with advance proofs, we learn that Prince Chira (Prince of Na-konchaisi), is a son of his Majesty King Chulalongkorn of Siam, and was born on Nov. 7, 1876. He was educated in Europe, spending most of his time in England and Denmark. In the latter country he commenced his military career as Lieutenant. He received his Captaincy in the Siamese Army in 1895 and represented his father at the Coronation of Emperor Nicholas II. of Russia. Upon returning to Siam he received rapid promotion, was appointed Colonel in 1898 and was made Chief of the General Staff upon its establishment. Promotion to Major General followed in 1900 and as a reward for his active labours in connection with the reorganization of the Siamese Army he was appointed Commander-in-Chief, with the rank of Lieutenant-General, in 1903. His Highness possesses 15 decorations and is the author of several works on military subjects.

The Empress Dowager and the Emperor have given personal instructions to the Grand Council that in future any memorials from the provinces in connection with anti-Christian matters be submitted to them at once. It has evidently been the policy to keep such matters back.

CANCER IN HONGKONG.

We have procured a copy of the further correspondence relating to the Cancer Research (Colonies) Scheme, presented to both Houses of Parliament. Therein we notice that Hongkong claims a considerable space. H.E., in a letter to Mr. Lyttleton, states that the wishes of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund have been expressed to all the medical practitioners in Hongkong and South China. This letter accompanied a report by the Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer with regard to the relative incidence of the disease upon different races. Dr. Clark's interesting report showed that during the decade beginning 1895, the total deaths from cancer and sarcoma was 119, equal to a death-rate of 4.45 per 100,000 of the population, which compared very favourably with the rate in England, which for the period 1891-95 was 71.0 per 100,000. He added:—I quite recognise, however, that the facilities for a correct diagnosis of the cause of death are far greater in England than among the Chinese in Hongkong, and that our figures may possibly understate the case, but it is not probable that the disease is as prevalent here as it is in England, and this is borne out by the mortuary returns, which I will presently quote.

After giving the statistics relative to the disease, he continues—The most striking figures, however, are those obtainable from the records of the Public Mortuary. During the past 10 years no less than 15,365 post-mortem examinations have been made on the bodies of Chinese dying in the Colony, and out of this total number only ten are returned as having died of malignant disease. These bodies cannot be said to be specially selected, though a small proportion of them are bodies removed to the mortuary during an epidemic of plague, under suspicion that they have succumbed to this disease. The bulk of them represent merely those Chinese persons whose deaths have occurred outside the public hospitals, and have not been certified by a registered medical practitioner. The figures, as they stand, represent a proportion of only 0.65 per 1,000 deaths, whereas, I believe, in England about 38 per 1,000 of all deaths are due to malignant disease.

Our hospital statistics show that during the past five years 42 Chinese cases of malignant new growth were admitted to the (native) Tung Wah Hospital, and 31 Chinese cases were admitted to the Government Civil Hospital, making a total of 73 cases. It must be remembered, however, that some of these cases may have been admitted to hospital more than once, or may have transferred themselves from one of these hospitals to the other.

Moreover, in considering both cases and deaths, it is necessary to bear in mind that, in addition to the population given in Table I., the following number of Chinese persons—who are classed as immigrants, i.e., persons arriving in Hongkong by ocean-going steamers on their way back to China—may furnish cases:—

| | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| 1900 | ... | ... | ... | 121,322 |
| 1901 | ... | ... | ... | 129,030 |
| 1902 | ... | ... | ... | 129,812 |
| 1903 | ... | ... | ... | 140,551 |
| 1904 | ... | ... | ... | 149,195 |

These persons all land in Hongkong and remain here pending trans-shipment, staying meanwhile in registered emigration houses, and such of them as are suffering from disease doubtless find their way to one or other of the hospitals, while some no doubt die here.

With regard to the question of the age incidence of the disease, it will be seen from Table I. that 70 of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 45 years, and 46 between the ages of 15 and 45 years.

From these figures and also from the census return, which I quote below, it will be seen that the hypothesis suggested in paragraph 12 of the circular of November 18th, 1904, that malignant disease is rare in these races, because such a very small percentage of them attain ages exceeding 45 years, does not apply to the Chinese in Hongkong, for at the last census, taken in 1901, the age distribution of the Chinese population was as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| 0-15 years | ... | ... | 17 per cent. |
| 15-45 years | ... | ... | 60 " |
| 45 years and upwards | ... | ... | 14 " |

The corresponding figures for England (1891 census) in the urban districts were as follows:—

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| 0-15 years | ... | ... | 35 per cent. |
| 15-45 years | ... | ... | 47 " |
| 45 years and upwards | ... | ... | 18 " |

The difference between 14 per cent. and 18 per cent. in the proportion of persons over 45 years of age would not be sufficient to account for the very great difference in the incidence of malignant disease.

It may be interesting to add that out of 882 deaths of Chinese recorded in Hongkong last year, no less than 712 were of persons over 60 years of age.

To anyone unacquainted with the Colony the age distribution of the population may appear remarkable, and I would explain, therefore, that Hongkong is peculiar in two respects, namely (1) in having a high infant mortality, and (2) in the fact that the population is maintained and increases almost wholly as the result of the immigration of adults from the mainland of China. Thus it is that our percentage of children is low while our percentage of young adults (15-45 years) is very high.

The only fallacy attaching to the death returns, which I have quoted, lies in the possibility that Chinese suffering from malignant disease may return to their own country before they die, but our general experience with regard to other lingering illnesses is that the Chinaman whose home is here will remain here as long as possible, and will continue to do such odd jobs as the nature of his ailment will permit, or will be maintained by his relatives and friends, until he ultimately dies of the disease. This is borne out by the fact that there are nearly 6,000 deaths of Chinese yearly in Hongkong, and that nearly 28 per cent. of these deaths are attributable either to phthisis, to beri-beri, or to old age—the latter being persons well over 60 and not a few approximately to 80 years of age. All of these diseases, with the exception of a few of the more acute types of beri-beri, are such as would enable the patients to get back to their own country, for which there are so many facilities, at a cost of a few cents only, had they any overwhelming desire to do so. As a matter of fact, the sick persons who are hurried back to their own country are, I should say, those who are suspected by their friends to be developing an attack of plague or of smallpox; the reason in such case being the rooted objection of the friends to the disturbance and discomfort attending disinfection of the premises, or perhaps the objection of the patient himself to removal to hospital.

With regard to predisposing causes I am inclined to think that in the case of a disease, in which the mean annual death-rate is only 4.45 per 100,000, personal idiosyncrasies are of more moment than the habits of the community, but of these former I have no information. As, however, the habits of the community may throw some light on the fact that the Chinese in Hongkong enjoy a marked immunity from malignant disease, I may say that they smoke but little, in comparison with the European, they practically do not chew at all, and their diet consists in the main of rice with small quantities of fish or of pork, and that spices, peppers and hot chillies are not used by them to any appreciable extent. The Chinese "soy" or sauce, of which very little is used at a time, is a very mild aromatic liquid, having a slightly vinegary taste.

NOTES ON THE YELLOW RIVER.

A NEW BED: ITS POSSIBLE DIRECTION.

We take the following notes from a recent I. M. C. publication:—The general impression gained is that the Yellow River cannot maintain its present bed for another 20 years if nothing better than existing methods of control are used. It becomes therefore a matter of anxious interest where, under these conditions, the river will go when it takes up a new bed. It is well known that where a mountain torrent suddenly reaches a plain where its volume is reduced, it tends to deposit its load of detritus in the form of a cone, the apex of which is situated in the ravine from which the water rushes. Except in so far as the water is temporarily confined by natural dikes or by a temporarily scooped channel, the water has no

bias to flow down the cone more in one direction than another—the slope of all straight lines from the apex of the cone being the same. It is known, too, that alluvial plains, or portions of them, occasionally partake of the nature of flattened cones. If we examine Plate III. showing the various recorded courses which the Yellow River has taken, it is obvious that here at all events a coniform plain exists, for at different times the river has flowed in all possible directions where not prevented by the mountains. A realisation of this fact enables one to understand the instability of any one course of the river, and how it is that at one time or the other it has traversed every part of the plain. This is one of nature's methods of plain formation. Another method used when the plain is more confined, such as a valley plain, and where the gradient is less steep, is by means of the gradual migration of the river bed from limit to limit of the plain. In the latter case results a smooth plain, with a gentle declivity in the general direction of the river and free from any minor irregularity of level caused by the main river (whatever may be the result of other streams). In the former case results a series of elevations marking the sites of former beds of the river and standing up above the general level of the cone-shaped surface. What is the condition of the Great Plain in this respect? Certainly the river at the present moment is running on an elevated ridge; certainly an elevated ridge lies in the course which it followed from 1324 to 1852, possibly in the course which it followed from 1209 to 1324. But what about the ancient courses to the northward of the present one? Kingsmill writes of an ancient elevated bed near Po-hsing, and I have myself crossed the apparently elevated bed of the old Tu-hsieh-ho, which was in 600 B.C. occupied by the Yellow River. It is not to be expected, however, that these ancient elevations should be visible to the eye, especially such as were due to a river unartificially restricted. Weathering and agricultural processes will have merged such sharp outlines as they originally had with the plain; but they probably still exist, to serve as a factor in limiting floods and in determining the course of the river if it deserts its present bed. Since writing the above I have crossed two old river beds between Ping-yuan and Tê-chou, one 45 li from Tê-chou and the other 31 li. The former, which was well defined with a massive dike, which must originally have been at least 30 feet high above the plain, is still called the Lao Hwangho, or Old Yellow River; the latter, which was less defined, had, apparently, no name, but the village on its north bank was called Huang-ho-yen (or Yellow River Edge). The plain between the river beds [surveyed] dipped, apparently, to the northward. The small channel in the centre of the north bed is an overflow channel from the Grand Canal, still in use. From the map compiled from Kingsmill's paper it would appear that the Yellow River left a bed in this neighbourhood in 1194, and, apparently, one of these—probably the southern one—must be it. It is astonishing, however, to find the dike so well defined after some 700 years. Another important factor with regard to the development of the levels of the plain is the northern part of the Grand Canal. The elevated bed of this waterway has probably in the course of years entirely altered the original drainage system. The rivers which from the mountains in the south-east of Shansi formerly flowed direct to the sea have been deflected to the north and concentrate their water in the neighbourhood of Tientsin. From Lin-ch'ing-chou to Tientsin the Grand Canal is now merely a continuation of the Wei-ho. (It is to be noted that the defluents to the eastward of the Grand Canal which are shown on the maps do not exist in reality, except in one or two cases, as flood drains, and that from Lin-ch'ing-chou to Tientsin the "Canal" has no affluents.) The portion of the Canal lying between the Yellow River and Lin-ch'ing is now silted up. At high river, however, waters would run north if they were not dammed off. Our knowledge of the condition of the levels of the plain is very limited; but do we know enough to form any opinion as to the probable course of the river if it permanently left its present bed? Perhaps it is best to consider what the Chinese say about it, and see if our own little knowledge

is confirmatory of their ideas. They say that if the river leaves its bed by a breach in the left bank east of the Grand Canal, it will take up a course parallel to the present one and not far from it, i.e., somewhere about the T'u-hsie-ho. This is practically certain, as this is a neighbourhood where a slope towards the sea exists of about 1 foot in a mile. They further say that if the river leaves its bed by a breach in the right bank in Honan, it will usurp the course of the Huai-ho, and pour into the sea as before 1852; also that there is no danger to the Yangtze, notwithstanding that a considerable volume entered that river as a result of the 1887 breach. This seems plain enough, as also that if the right bank in Shangtung breaks west of the Grand Canal, the water will flow south parallel to the Canal and find its exit also at the 1852 mouth. They further say that if the left bank breaks west of the Grand Canal, the flood waters will go to Tientsin. But why more now than in 1852? In that year the flood waters broke through the Grand Canal, and, once having done that, found the Ta-ch'ing-ho's bed ready prepared to conduct them to the sea. It may be that in 1852 the Grand Canal, where the flood struck it, was but little elevated above the plain and offered but small resistance to the flood, guided thither perhaps by an ancient "high." Moreover, we know that immediately on the other side of the Canal was a flood opening to the Ta-ch'ing-ho. Anyhow, it is certain that with the rise of the bed of the Yellow River the bed and banks of the Grand Canal in the immediate neighbourhood must have similarly been raised, and therefore the Canal offers now a much greater resistance to a flow of waters from the west than it did 50 years ago. As to ancient beds, it seems certain, too, that none of these are as high as the banks of the Canal, and that therefore, as the Chinese say, the only course for the waters will be northward. In its flow northward it would find the more or less elevated bed of the Wei-ho in its way, and it would then become a question whether it would break through the Wei-ho or through the Grand Canal, or both. If it broke through the Grand Canal at Lin-ch'ing-chon, there is the possibility, or even probability, that the water would run east-north-east to the sea, taking the water of the Wei-ho as well. If, on the other hand, the waters crossed the Wei-ho, there is nothing to prevent their northward flow until they reach Tientsin and escape to the sea by the Peiho.

CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA.

BIBLES TOO CHEAP: PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES TOO "STAND-OFFISH."

A missionary correspondent of the *N.-O. Daily News* at Yungp'ingfu, Chihli, writes:—"The new ten-cash pieces which are now the common currency of this part of Chihli, have proved a source of temptation to some of the business houses, and I venture here to mention it: that missionaries in other districts who are interested in the sale of the Holy Scriptures may be put on their guard. I found a week or two ago that our copies of the Scriptures were being surreptitiously bought from coolporters on the streets, and then used to wrap up the copper coins, much in the same way that dollars are wrapped up in the foreign banks. The reason for this is, that Scriptures are sold much too cheaply; cheaper indeed than the commonest paper that can be purchased in China, and it seems that the Bible Societies should agree together to raise the price somewhat. Better smaller sales than wilful destruction of the Book. On discovering that one firm was so using our books, your correspondent was preparing to report the case to Tientsin, but on receiving a written apology and an undertaking not to repeat the offence the matter was closed. In addition the firm concerned, as an evidence of contrition, themselves contributed the sum of \$40 to the Government Boys' School recently started by the officials in the city. In the settlement of this case, it is a pleasure to add that we are indebted in great measure to the Roman Catholic bishop, to whom the offending business house appealed. Which leads me to hark back to my last letter to the *N.-O. Daily News*. In that

I ventured to express the wish that there were a little more sociability and friendliness between the missionaries of the Catholic and Protestant Churches in China. I noticed in the same issue of the *N.-O. Herald*, which contained that letter, that some correspondent signing himself "Y. Z." spoke of those who advocated such social intercourse, as engaged in describing a circular triangle. Really, Mr. Editor, my experience of the Catholic Church and her priests in China must be very, very different to that of other missionaries. And one wonders when in China we are going to secure two things.—First, when will these awful massacres of missionaries be finally repressed by the Chinese Government? and secondly (and of equal importance almost), when shall "all men know that ye are My disciples, when ye have love one to another?" One wonders how we are going to manage when we get to Heaven (those of us who manage to get there); for of a surety we shall have to meet some of our Catholic friends in "that blest abode." To be sociable with men who belong to another section of the One church is to talk of "a circular triangle!" I wonder if our friend "Y. Z." has ever been on terms of sociability with men who make no profession of religion at all, and if so, why should he debar those who wish it from being on good terms with other foreigners (most of them real, genuinely pious men) who happen to live and work in the same city or town of "the heathen Chinese?" I am serious in this matter, Mr. Editor, for I am persuaded that the lack of social intercourse, the "stand-offishness" that many Protestant missionaries consider the right thing in this land, is at the back of most of the trouble between Catholic and Protestant churches, and that it is this "which gives occasion for the enemy to blaspheme."

PEKING VIEW OF FOREIGN EDUCATION.

Chinese Imperial Edicts, especially when they happen to concern foreign relations, are often involved and subtle. Careful reading of the subjoined translation of an edict issued on March 25th is needed to show that it is really a backhanded slap at "foreign learning" and foreign religions. It will be understood quite well by those for whom it is intended.

"We have received a memorial from the Board of Education requesting that the principles of education may be made known to the empire. In olden times schools of all grades were to instruct the people to understand the five relationships, and virtue, the arts, good government and doctrines of life are all from education. Both in the West and East education is esteemed as one of the main essentials of life, and study is universally prosecuted; this is a principle which lays a moral obligation on East and West alike. The Court is deeply interested in the encouragement and extension of education, and a special Board has been established for this purpose. The principle must therefore be made known, and the people must be taught to understand the aim of education, so that all may be induced to follow the same course and observe the five principles of loyalty to the Throne, honour to Confucius, integrity, militarism, and the actual execution of duty. In general the ruler and the people must be united as one and love their country. The right education, which is the study of essential and not useless things, must give support to the religion which must strengthen and support the empire. If everyone is actuated by the same spirit, then the results will be manifested, and if everyone has the true military spirit the country can become powerful. Should attention be paid to agriculture and commerce nothing will be wasted in the land and everything will be turned to account, and all those things should be done for the good of the country and the people, so that the natural customs of the people may become upright, when there are many talented men being trained there will be no need to feel anxiety at the country's lack of advancement. Let the Board issue all the points they suggest both to the students and teachers of the schools in the provinces. They must establish good principles and make clear the source of education and that education is not merely a step to self-advancement. Education must be made the rule

for the formation of individual character, the control of families and national government. This is the desire and intention of the Court in encouraging education and it must be fulfilled. The President and vice-President of the Board must set an example to their subordinates and must act in accordance with their professions and instructions. Proper encouragement must be given and a strict supervision of education must be made. They must take into serious consideration the critical condition of the country, and this is our sincere hope, and let all other points be as proposed."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A row of Chinese shops and a theatre were burned out at Shanghai on April 4th. It was one of the most destructive fires experienced for some time.

Information reached Hongkong on April 11 that the steamer *M. Struve*, for which Messrs. Simssen and Co. are the local agents, which struck on a rock near Ooksen Island, between Amoy and Foochow, has become a total wreck.

The German steamer *Decima*, wrecked off Hsiaoan Island, was on the 11th April offered for sale by Mr. G. P. Lammert, auctioneer, at the sale rooms, Duddell Street, and was knocked down to Mr. Sui Hing for \$225, who also purchased the 1,000 tons of coal in her for \$25.

A meeting of a large and influential section of the Chinese community of Singapore was held at the Tung Chi I Yuen (Chinese Hospital) on March 31st and a resolution was unanimously adopted to form a Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Singapore with the object of affording its members the benefits of such an institution.

It is stated that H.E. Sheng Kung-pao has proposed a scheme to the Chinese Throne in which it is suggested that a large loan, or several loans from foreign countries, be made, and the proceeds be devoted entirely to the redemption of railways now under control, or pledged to foreigners. The proposal, we understand, has been turned over to H.E. Tang Shao-yi, Vice-President of the Waiwupu, for decision.

It is stated in Shanghai mandarin circles that a large Naval Academy is to be established soon at Woosung, as a training school for cadets of the combined Peiyang and Nanyang squadrons. As to the organising of a sea-going fleet composed of battleships and armoured cruisers, commensurate in number to the dignity of the Empire, the question has had to be deferred for the time being owing to the want of adequate funds.

A public library, known as the *Teikoku Zushokukan*, has been opened in Tokyo. This library was first designed to serve as a memorial of Japan's victories in the war with China, remarks the *Japan Mail*, but its construction has proceeded so slowly that it is only to-day that it can be opened and even now it is by no means complete. The main building is four stories high and the building set apart for the storing of books nine stories high. The cost of the structure is stated to be 320,000 yen. The *Nippon* says the Library will now serve as a memorial of two great wars. Compared with the magnificent libraries of the West, it seems to the *Nippon* very insignificant, but Japan is only just beginning to feel the value of such institutions as public libraries.

The *Hankow Daily News* of March 31st reports:—"What threatened to be a serious riot took place in the British concession yesterday when the tea factory coolies belonging to Messrs. Molchanoff, Pechatnoff & Co. and those engaged in the factories situated in the Russian concession had a hand-to-hand fight in the Fau Cheong road. The difference of opinion seems to have been a question of wages. The British concession coolies had arranged and settled an agreement in regard to their pay and were going on with their work, but the others had not. The mob marched from the Russian concession to the British and demanded that Messrs. Molchanoff's men should come out on strike. As they refused, the row began. However, there was more noise and chin-wagging than actual fighting until some Europeans and a Sikh policeman interfered and dispersed the crowd. The policeman, we believe, received some cuts about the head by bamboo, but nothing serious. As far as we know, the coolies on the Russian concession factories have not resumed work yet."

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. B. Burkill & Sons' Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, 30th March, 1906, states:—The home markets are firm, Gold Killing is quoted in London at 12-9. Raw Silks.—There has been very little inquiry for Tantees, and we only hear of one transaction, Yellow Silks.—Very little doing.—a sale of Mienyang S. C. 1 is recorded at Tls. 860. Hand Filatures.—There have been several enquiries from America during the past week for Crack Chops and Shanghai Re-reels, and a settlement of Mayhun Yes & Sun Tien Chang is recorded on the basis of Tls. 731½ for Blue Dragon Extra Lower grade Filatures have also been in some demand. Steam Filatures.—Are neglected. Waste Silks.—Very little business doing. Gum Wastes are in small supply and held for prices above buyers' ideas. Tusah Waste is held for Tls. 24 Filature 50-60 and Tls. 23 for Newchwang Cargo, but buyers offer Tls. 1-1½ less and no business has been done.

KOBE MARKET REPORT

The Kobe Market Report, published under the direction of the Hiogo and Osaka General Chamber of Commerce, dated 30th March, 1906, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Cotton.—American.—An appreciable rise in quotations has taken place during the fortnight due to the latest report of the year's crop being 10,897,000 bales, including Linters, which is smaller than anticipated. Nevertheless this rise in the producing districts has not affected the local market, as some forward transactions have taken place at Y34.50 to Y34.75 which must be speculative as the home quotations are over Y36.50. Spot quotation is nominal at Y34 for middling. Indian.—Owing to the heavy arrivals and the large stock held by Mills the market is extremely dull. The quotations for spot are considerably below home prices, consequently very little business is being done and there is no enquiry for forward. Chinese.—A very small business is being done at current quotation, best quality at Y27.50, common quality at Y22.75. Shirtings.—Greys, Whites.—Little to report. Demand in general continues small, and the tendency of the market weak. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—Prints, Velvets.—No change. Cotton Italians, Lawns.—Have again declined. Umbrella Cloths are firm and in request. Worsteds and Woollens.—Heavy Woollens.—Deliveries are about over for this season. Light Woollen Goods.—Are in active demand and prices fairly remunerative. Window Glass.—Quiet and weak. Arrivals are large and as prices at home are anything but firm, values here remain very low. Metals.—Dull and lifeless with declining prices here as well as at home. Pig-iron sales are reported at 50d. from stock which is still very large. Bar-iron is declining. Galvanized-sheets, Wire-nails, firm. Tin-plates weaker. Sugar.—Beet.—Market quieter as the expected immediate increase of the Consumption Tax on Refined Sugar has apparently been put off. Prices for German Beet which has reached Y15.80 has receded to Y15.80. Cane.—Hongkong Refined.—Market a little firmer, and prices have advanced 30 sen per picul in sympathy with the rise in the prices of Japan Refined. Osaka Refined.—At the auction held on the 25th instant 5,400 bags changed hands at prices which showed an advance of 10 sen per picul on last sales. Rice.—Slightly firmer.

EXPORTS.

Fish Oil.—Market weak with downward tendency, 2000 cases. Herring reported as taken up at Y5.20. Copper.—Rather a lively business has taken place since last report, about 800 tons having been taken up for export during the last fortnight at gradually rising prices. Rice.—Steady but little or no business being done. Cotton Yarns.—Export of Cotton Yarns has been small and prices are weaker. Vegetable Wax.—Market firm at quotation, 300 cases reported bought at Y27.65. Matting.—Prices have continued steady owing to the demand for supplies and the fact that buyers have been willing to pay advanced prices to get stocks. Straw Braid.—The market for both Straw and Chip Plaits during the past fortnight has been decidedly weaker; this has been more marked in the case of Chip Plaits.

RICE.

Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co.'s Circular, dated Saigon 6th April, 1906, states:—But very few transactions having been concluded since our last advices, prices have somewhat decreased, and our market closes easier notwithstanding the continued scanty arrivals from the Interior. We quote for April to May delivery.

| | per picul |
|---|-----------|
| No. 2 White sifted (trié) steam milled (round) | |
| No. 2 White unsifted (ordinaire) steam milled (round) | \$3.25 |
| 5 % Cargo steam milled (round) | \$2.88 |
| 10 % Cargo steam milled (round) | \$2.80 |
| 20 % Cargo steam milled (round) | \$2.70 |

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s latest Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 5th April, 1906, states:—The forward buying in Manchester mentioned in our last appears to have emanated from some of the head offices at home of houses here, and was not in any way induced by recommendations from this side. It is indeed diametrically opposed to the ideas held by our leading importers, who are looking askance at the enormous stocks at present here (more than three times the quantity at this time last year), and the ample supplies afloat and on order. The manufacturers have evidently impressed upon the buyers the necessity of securing the cloth for well known and long established chops at once if the goods are wanted for the next spring trade, as the best terms that can be obtained, as regard delivery, are for December-January shipment. The business seems to be confined principally to the goods of one manufacturer of favourite cloths, both for this and the Indian markets, and does not embrace the trade as a whole, other manufacturers being found able to take orders to a moderate extent for much earlier delivery. The first of the return steamers from Newchwang is due to-day when it may be possible to glean a few more particulars of the state of market. It is said the attempt to abolish the old three months credit system has failed and been abandoned, but the Japanese are still refusing to redeem their war notes except in the way of exchange for their manufactures. English and American goods are consequently being neglected in the country and holders find it difficult to move the heavy stocks they have on hand. It would seem to be quite a feasible thing for some of our local financial institutions to send up a million or two of the superfluous hard cash at present here and buy up those war notes, which no doubt they could do at a substantial discount, and so make a handsome profit and at the same time greatly facilitate Foreign trade. Something must soon be done to relieve the deadlock that at present exists. Shipments to the North are very slack, the steamers being engaged chiefly in carrying rice and other comestibles. The River trade is better in the way of re-exports, but there is still considerable room for improvement. Manchester is very strong and makers appear able to command full rates. Cotton is firm, the latest Liverpool quotations being 8.04d. for Mid-American and 9d. for Egyptian. The export to Hongkong and China last month was 50,000,000 yards of Plain Cottons and 1,000 bales Yarn to Shanghai. There have been more telegrams of late concerning the American markets, which appear to be stronger than ever, and very stiff prices are quoted for some of the favorite cloths. The Yarn markets are keeping fairly steady, but the stock of Indian Spinnings is increasing perceptibly. Native Cotton is easier again on the cessation of the export enquiry.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 16th April, 1906.

| | | | |
|----------------|---------|----|---------|
| Apricot | \$30 | to | — |
| Borax | \$14 | " | \$17.50 |
| Cassia | \$14 | " | \$19 |
| Cloves | \$20 | " | \$36 |
| Camphor | \$180 | " | — |
| Cow Bezoar | \$120 | " | \$150 |
| Fennel Seed | \$6 | " | — |
| Galangal | \$5 | " | — |
| Grapes | \$15 | " | — |
| Kismis | \$20 | " | — |
| Glue | \$26 | " | — |
| Olibanum | \$2 | " | \$16 |
| Oil Sandalwood | \$250 | " | \$375 |
| " Rosa | \$50 | " | \$180 |
| " Cassia | \$151 | " | — |
| Raisins | \$8 | " | — |
| Senna Leaves | \$2.50 | " | \$6 |
| Sandalwood | \$24 | " | \$30 |
| Saltpetre | \$11.80 | " | — |

AMOY CUSTOM RETURNS.

APRIL 5TH, 1906. List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 24th March to 30th March, 4 p.m., 1906.

IMPORTS

| GOODS | QUANTITY |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Cotton, Raw, Indian | pls. 187 |
| " " Native | " 1,008 |
| " " Yarn | " 340 |
| Shirtings, Grey | pcs. 4,950 |
| T-Cloths | " 310 |
| Shirtings, White | " 15 |
| T. Red Shirting | " 129 |
| Drills | " — |
| Shirtings Dyed, Brocades | " — |
| " Dyed | " — |
| Damasks | " — |
| Camlets | " 39 |
| Lasting | " 28 |
| Spanish Stripes | yds. 54 |
| Lustres, Figured | " — |
| Lead, in pigs | pls. 29 |
| Tin in slabs | " 151 |
| Iron, Nail rod | " 52 |
| Quicksilver | " 7 |
| Iron, Old | " 52 |
| Ironwire | " 41 |
| Rice | " 26,558 |
| Opium, Patna | " — |
| " Benares | " 65 |
| " Persian | " 8 |
| " Malwa | " 1 |
| " Szechuan | " 28 |
| " Yunnan | " 31 |
| " Kiangsu | " — |
| Sesamum Seed | " 434 |
| Sapanwood | " 60 |
| Sandalwood | " 86 |
| Rattans | " 35 |
| Wheat | " — |
| Flour | " 2,467 |
| Beancake | " 1,968 |
| Beans and Peas | " 7,748 |
| Bicho de Mer | " 229 |
| Matse Tea | pcs. — |
| Oil, Keosine American | gal. — |
| " " Borneo in bulk | " — |
| " " Russian | " — |
| " " Bulk | " 93,820 |
| Coal | tons — |
| Tobacco Leaf | pls. 816 |
| Varmicelli | " — |

EXPORTS

| GOODS | QUANTITY |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sugar, White | pls. 27 |
| " Brown | " 22 |
| " Candy | " 1,045 |
| Hemp Bags | pcs. 2,600 |
| " Sacking | " 4,050 |
| Paper 1 Quality | pls. 509 |
| " II | " 218 |
| Tobacco, Prepared | " 178 |
| Kittysols (umbrellas) | pcs. — |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 2nd April, 1906, states:—Gallnuts.—Plumshaped Galls are exceedingly scarce and we have not heard of any new business having been done in the meantime. There is also very little doing in usual Galls, as prices do not suit home buyers. Cowhides.—Only small parcels have changed hands in the meantime. Prices remain as high as ever. Tobacco.—Nothing doing. Feathers.—Only a limited business has been done in the meantime. Prices especially for Grey Szechuen duckfeathers are rather high. Cotton.—The dealers continue their policy of waiting for higher prices which, however, do not seem to come. Exchange has not been favouring holders, and consumers in Japan and Europe seem to be determined not to increase their limits. Tallow.—There is very little doing, prices asked by dealers being too high. Strawbraid.—Supplies of 7 end Split are coming forward more freely and prices for medium qualities will probably be somewhat lower in the near future. Mottleds, Yangchen and Shinkes remain scarce. Goatskin Rugs.—The demand is as keen as ever, but supplies are getting smaller. Wool.—Sheep.—Market strong; all descriptions are in good demand.

Per P. & O. steamer Japa, sailed on 11th March. For London:—89 cases camphor, 40 packages tea (from Foochow), 13 bales feathers, 30 cases Chinaware, 301 bales waste silk, 150 bales cases, 20 cases preserves, 700 boxes tea, 26 rolls mats and matting, 2 packages sundries, 30 cases essential oil, 14 packages P. effects and cutlery, 1 cases cigars, 8 packages woodware. For Manchester:—250 bales waste silk, 1 case black woodware. For Bordeaux:—75 rolls mats. For Marseilles:—35 rolls mats.

Per steamer *Telemachus*, sailed hence 30th March. For Port Said:—91 packages fire-crackers, etc. For Amsterdam:—32 cases chinaware, etc. For Rotterdam:—102 rolls matting, etc. For London:—75 bales waste silk, 165 cases chinaware, etc. 250 cases preserves. 233 bales canes, 433 bales matting, etc. For London/Glasgow:—250 cases preserves and sundries. For London/Antwerp:—45 cases bristles. For Glasgow:—209 cases preserves, etc. For Manchester:—130 bales waste silk, etc. For Glasgow/Dundee/Leith:—125 packages merchandise. For London/Continent:—266 bales canes, 100 cases gallnuts, 300 bales feathers. For Liverpool:—48 bales canes. For Antwerp:—187 bales feathers, etc.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 12th April, 1906.—Since the date of our last the market has ruled rather quieter, but a fair cash business has been put through; rates have ruled steady and we have no special features to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai found further buyers in the early part of the week at \$860; but later a fall in the London rate to £88. 10s. reduced our local rate to \$855 at which some shares changed hands. The market closes steady at that rate with an inclination to buy. Nationals continue with buyers but we have no sales to report.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been taken off the market at \$785 and \$790, and close in demand at the latter rate. China Traders can still be placed at quotation, but shares continue very scarce and we have no sales to report. Cantons have been placed at \$350 and \$355, closing steady at the latter rate. North Chinas have receded in Shanghai to Tls. 9, and Yangtzes remain unchanged at Tls. 190 without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$305 with buyers, but no shares are forthcoming, and the market closes firm at that rate. Chinas continue in demand at \$86 to \$87, but shares remain very scarce and we have no business to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong and Macao continue quiet and without business at \$24½ buyers and \$25 sellers; we have no business to report. Indos have also ruled neglected with sellers at \$94 and no sales, the market closing with buyers at \$93. Shell Transports have improved to 26/-. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain neglected at quotation, and it is possible that a lower rate would be accepted. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—No changes or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after further sales at \$170, have again declined, and at time of writing sellers rule the market at \$169, and possibly at a point less. Kowloon Wharves in the early part of the week came into some demand, and a fair business was put through at \$168½, \$164, \$104½ and \$105; at the close however the market is quieter with sellers and no buyers at \$104½ to \$104. Farnhams have slightly improved in Shanghai to Tls. 118, but we have no local business to report. New Amoy Docks have been enquired for at \$17 without leading to business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have again changed hands at \$116 and a few more small lots could be placed at that rate. Kowloon Lands have found further buyers at \$39 and close steady. Hotels have been placed in small lots at \$133 and close with buyers. Humphreys have changed hands in fair lots at \$11 and close with further buyers at that rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos, after sales at Tls. 64, were placed at Tls. 63, and further shares are wanted at that rate. Internationals have advanced in Shanghai to Tls. 62½ and Laou Kung Mows have receded to Tls. 66½. Hongkongs have found local buyers at \$16½, closing steady.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have been done at \$9, Dairy Farms at \$16, Cements at \$30, Watsons at \$13, and Powells at \$10½ ex interim dividend paid on the 9th inst. Tramways have improved to \$225 and Icos to \$235. China Light and Powers have been placed at \$10 cum div., and close with buyers at \$9½ ex div.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS. |
|---|----------|----------------------------------|
| Alhambra | \$200 | \$100 |
| Banks— | | |
| Hongkong & S'hai.. | \$125 | \$855, buyers London, \$88.10 |
| National B. of China A. Shares | .25 | \$40, buyers |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.... | 12s. 6d. | \$7½ |
| China-Borneo Co..... | \$12 | \$6½, sellers |
| China Light & P. Co. | \$10 | \$9½, x div., buyers |
| China Provident | \$10 | \$9, sales |
| Cotton Mills— | | |
| Ewo..... | Tls. 50 | Tls. 63, sales & buy. |
| Hongkong | \$10 | \$16½, sales |
| International | Tls. 75 | Tls. 62½ |
| Laou Kung Mow ... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 66½ |
| Soychee | Tls. 500 | Tls. 300 |
| Dairy Farm | \$6 | \$16, sellers |
| Docks & Wharves— | | |
| Farnham, B. & Co.... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 118, buyers |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. | \$50 | \$104½, sellers |
| H. & W. Dock | \$50 | \$169, sellers |
| New Amoy Dock ... | \$6½ | \$17, buyers |
| S'hai & H. Wharf... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 218 |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo... | \$25 | \$21, sellers |
| G. Island Cement. ... | \$10 | \$29½ |
| Hongkong & C. Gas... | \$210 | \$175, buyers |
| Hongkong Electric... | \$10 | \$16½, sales |
| Do. New | \$10 | \$16, sales |
| H. H. L. Tramways... | \$100 | \$225, buyers |
| Hongkong Hotel Co... | \$50 | \$133, sales & buy. |
| Hongkong Ice Co..... | \$25 | \$235, buyers |
| Hongkong Rope Co... | \$50 | \$143, sellers |
| H'kong S. Waterboat | \$10 | \$10, sellers |
| Insurances— | | |
| Canton | \$50 | \$350, sales & buy. |
| China Fire..... | \$20 | \$86, buyers |
| China Traders | \$25 | \$96, buyers |
| Hongkong Fire..... | \$50 | \$305, buyers |
| North China..... | .25 | Tls. 90 |
| Union | \$100 | \$790, buyers |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$190 |
| Land and Buildings— | | |
| H'kong Land Invest. | \$100 | \$116, buyers |
| Humphreys' Estate | \$10 | \$11½, sales & buy. |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$39, sales & buy. |
| Shanghai Land..... | Tls. 50 | Tls. 118 |
| West Point Building | \$50 | \$53, sellers |
| Mining— | | |
| Charbonnages | Fcs. 250 | \$490 |
| Raub..... | 18/10 | \$8 |
| Philippine Co. | \$10 | \$5½ |
| Refineries— | | |
| China Sugar | \$100 | \$180, sellers |
| Luzon Sugar..... | \$100 | \$25 |
| Steamship Companies | | |
| China and Manila... | \$25 | \$18 |
| Douglas Steamship | \$50 | \$41, buyers |
| H., Canton & M. ... | \$15 | \$25, sellers |
| Indo-China S.N. Co. | \$210 | \$93, buyers |
| Shell Transport Co. | .21 | 28/-. buyers |
| Star Ferry | \$10 | \$32, buyers |
| Do. New | \$5 | \$23, sellers |
| Shanghai & H. Dyeing | \$50 | \$50 |
| South China M. Post. | \$25 | \$20, sellers |
| Steam Laundry Co. ... | \$5 | \$7, sellers |
| Do. | \$5 | \$8½, sellers |
| Stores & Dispensaries. | | |
| Campbell, M. & Co. | \$10 | \$32 |
| Powell & Co., Wm. | \$10 | \$104, ex div. |
| Watkins..... | \$10 | \$8, sellers |
| Watson & Co., A. S. | \$10 | \$13, sales |
| United Asbestos | \$4 | \$9 |
| Do. Founders | \$10 | \$160 |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 5th April, 1906, states:—There has been very little business indeed during the week under discussion, the only stock showing any activity being Langkats and that only for one day; very little forward business has been done. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. These have changed hands locally at \$862½, the latest London quotation is \$90.5s. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/10½. Marine and Fire Insurance.—A single transaction in Yangtze Insurance Shares is reported at \$190. Shipping.—Indos. A single transaction is reported at Tls. 67½. Tugs. There is a good enquiry for Tugs at Tls. 60, but no shares are offering at that price. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. The price for the settlement was up to Tls. 121, but has since receded to Tls. 118½ cash. Sales have been made at Tls. 120 July, Tls. 118 April, and Tls. 121 July, with very little business doing. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Business is reported in this stock at Tls. 222½, 221½ and 221½, June. There is a fair enquiry for September delivery at Tls. 230. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—Kaipings have changed hands at Tls. 10.15 and Tls. 10.25 for bearer scrip. Wei-haiwei Golds have been dealt in at \$13. Lands.—Shanghai Lands are firm at Tls. 117. Industrial.—Ewos. No business reported. Laou Kung Mows have changed hands at Tls. 67, Tls. 65½ and 66½. Icos have been dealt in at Tls. 26, Langkats have been dealt in at Tls. 232½ cash, Tls. 240, 237½ and 238 June, Tls. 241 and 240 July. Sumatras have changed hands at Tls. 60 and 63. There is a good enquiry for these shares at the latter rate, and higher prices might be obtained. Stores and Hotels.—Hall and Holtz Shares have been dealt in at \$22. Loans and Debentures.—Shanghai Gas 6 per cent. debentures have been sold at Tls. 96 and Astor House 8 per cent. debentures at Tls. 103½.

EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 14th April.

| | |
|--|---------|
| ON LONDON.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 2/0½ |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 2/0½ |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | 2/0½ |
| ON LONDON.— | |
| Bank Bills at 4 months' sight | 2/0½ |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 2/0½ |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 2/1½ |
| ON PARIS.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 257 |
| Credits 4 months' sight | 261 |
| ON GERMANY.— | |
| On demand | 209½ |
| ON NEW YORK.— | |
| Bank Bills, on demand | 49½ |
| Credits, 60 days' sight | 50½ |
| ON BOMBAY.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 153½ |
| Bank, on demand | 153½ |
| ON CALCUTTA.— | |
| Telegraphic Transfer | 153½ |
| Bank, on demand | 153½ |
| ON SHANGHAI.— | |
| Bank, at sight | 71½ |
| Private, 30 days' sight | 72½ |
| ON YOKOHAMA.— | |
| On demand | 100 |
| ON MANILA.— | |
| On demand | 99½ |
| ON SINGAPORE.— | |
| On demand | 15 p.m. |
| ON BATAVIA.— | |
| On demand | 123½ |
| ON HAIPHONG.— | |
| On demand | 3½ p.m. |
| ON SAIGON.— | |
| On demand | 3 p.m. |
| ON BANGKOK.— | |
| On demand | 62 |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | \$9.75 |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael | \$51.10 |
| BAR SILVER, per oz. | 29½ |

FREIGHT.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Harve 41/8 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland). Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai: Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 100 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—

ARRIVALS.

- 6, Manchuria, Amr. str., from S. Francisco.
 6, Oceano, British str., from Kuchinotsu.
 6, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., from Macassar.
 6, Tjimshi, Dutch str., from Swatow.
 6, Yuensang, British str., from Iloilo.
 7, Calchas, British str., from Liverpool.
 7, Den of Mains, British str., from Shanghai.
 7, Diadem, British battleship, from Savory.
 7, Ismaila, British str., from Rangoon.
 7, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 7, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 7, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 7, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 7, Thyra, Norwegian str., from Kuchinotsu.
 8, Eskdale, British str., from Rangoon.
 8, Fri, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
 8, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 8, Germania, German str., from Sydney.
 8, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
 8, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 8, Huichow, British str., from Newchwang.
 8, Namantia, German str., from Portland.
 8, Sandakan, German str., from Bangkok.
 9, A. Apcar, British str., from Singapore.
 9, C. Jebsen, German str., from Probolinggo.
 9, Diomed, British str., from Shanghai.
 9, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 9, Lydia, German str., from Chinkiang.
 9, Progress, German str., from Chefoo.
 9, P. Sigismund, German str., from Sydney.
 9, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 9, Santia, British str., from Rangoon.
 9, Scandia, German str., from Shanghai.
 9, Shoshin Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 9, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 10, Flintshire, British str., from Singapore.
 10, Ithaka, German str., from Chinkiang.
 10, Java, British str., from Yokohama.
 10, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 10, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
 10, Lyeemoon, German str., from Chinkiang.
 10, Merapi, British str., from Singapore.
 10, P. R. Luitpold, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
 10, Rajah, German str., from Bangkok.
 10, Shimosa, British str., from Foochow.
 11, Aker, Norwegian str., from Antwerp.
 11, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 11, Haimun, British str., from Foochow.
 11, Kinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Lifong, French str., from Bangkok.
 11, Marie, German str., from Bangkok.
 11, Shansi, British str., from Wuhu.
 11, Signal, German str., from Bangkok.
 11, S. Rickmers, British str., from Singapore.
 11, Victoria, Swedish str., from Saigon.
 11, Yangmor, Korean str., from Moji.
 12, Alabama, British str., from Karatsu.
 12, Apenrade, German str., from Pakhoi.
 12, Binh-Thuan, French str., from Saigon.
 12, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
 12, F. of India, British str., from Vancouver.
 12, Kaohow, British str., from Chefoo.
 12, Sachsen, German str., from Singapore.
 12, Shah Allum, British str., from Kobe.
 12, Sikh, British str., from Singapore.
 12, Taifu, German str., from Swatow.
 12, Waihora, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Chiyun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 13, Dortmund, British str., from Singapore.
 13, Emma Luyken, German str., from Saigon.
 13, Hongwan L., British str., from Penang.
 13, Liza, Swedish str., from Bangkok.
 13, Quinta, German str., from Yangtee.
 13, Taiwan, British str., from Bangkok.
 13, Wong Koi, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Amara, British str., from Sourabaya.
 14, Holstein, German str., from Haiphong.
 14, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 14, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Maidsuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 14, Scandia, German str., from Hamburg.
 14, Slavonia, German str., from Vladivostok.
 14, Stondardi, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 14, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 14, Wingsang, British str., from Wuhu.
 14, Wray Castle, British str., from New York.

April—

DEPARTURES.

- 6, Ameer, British str., for Shanghai.
 6, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 6, Barra, British str., for Calcutta.

- 6, Colombo Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 6, Devanha, British str., for Shanghai.
 6, Esang, British str., for Canton.
 6, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Heimdal, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
 6, Kilburn, British str., for Yokohama.
 6, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 6, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 6, M. Struve, German str., for Chinkiang.
 6, Phra Nang, German str., for Bangkok.
 7, Anghin, German str., for Hoihow.
 7, Chunsang, British str., for Singapore.
 7, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
 7, Loongmoon, German str., for Chinkiang.
 7, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 7, Oceana, British str., for Europe.
 7, Tingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Royalist, British str., for Singapore.
 7, Z. Bro, British str., for Manila.
 8, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Cowrie, British str., for Palambang.
 8, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 8, Den of Mains, British str., for Singapore.
 8, Elisabeth Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 8, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 8, Gl-nroy, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Ismaila, British str., for Yokohama.
 8, Kobe, Austrian str., for Elephant Point.
 8, Nerite, Dutch str., for Hankow.
 8, Palamootta, British str., for Amoy.
 8, Rein, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 8, Shaohsing, British str., for Canton.
 8, Victorious, British str., for Kure.
 8, Yehow, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Braemar, British str., for Rangoon.
 9, City of Birmingham, Br. str., for Nagasaki.
 9, Kampot, French str., for Kwangchowwan.
 9, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
 9, Nam Yong, British str., for Hoihow.
 9, Pekin, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Royalist, British str., for Singapore.
 9, Santia, British str., for Yokohama.
 9, Zoroaster, Br. str., for Christmas Island.
 10, Ceylon, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 10, Diomed, British str., for Singapore.
 10, Doric, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Eskdale, British str., for Kobe.
 10, Lydia, German str., for Canton.
 10, Machew, German str., for Swatow.
 10, Madelene Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 10, Namsang, British str., for Singapore.
 10, Ningho, British str., for Canton.
 10, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 11, Athenian, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Esang, British str., for Chefoo.
 11, Fronde, French torpedo boat, for Foochow.
 11, Ithaka, German str., for Canton.
 11, Java, British steamer, for Singapore.
 11, Javaline, Fr. torpedo boat, for Foochow.
 11, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
 11, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 11, Manila, British str., for Bangkok.
 11, Montcalm, French cruiser, for Foochow.
 11, P. R. Luitpold, German str., for Europe.
 11, Rapier, French torpedo boat, for Foochow.
 11, Shoshin Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 11, Taishan, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 12, Glenfarg, British str., for Callao.
 12, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 12, S. Rickmers, British str., for Canton.
 12, Sachsen, German str., for Shanghai.
 12, Sandakan, German str., for Bangkok.
 12, Scandia, German str., for Singapore.
 12, Taiyuan, British str., for Yokohama.
 12, Terrier, Norwegian str., for Iloilo.
 13, Flintshire, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 13, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Kashing, British str., for Tientsin.
 13, Lennox, British str., for Callao.
 13, Shahjehan, British str., for Saigon.
 13, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Shimosa, British str., for New York.
 14, Aker, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 14, Lifong, French str., for Shanghai.
 14, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Yokohama.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Oceana, from Yokohama for London, Mr. L. S. T. Burrell, Miss Belben; from Kobe for London, Mr. and Miss Scranton, Mr. C. P. Ritson; from Shanghai for London, Mr. and Mrs. Elder, Miss Ingram, Mr. R. S. Lewis, Mrs. Reid and family, Miss Owen, Messrs.

Williams, and Walker, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Shaw and infant, Mr. A. Shaw Jr.; for Marseilles, Mr. J. H. T. MacMurtrie; for Brindisi, Mr. S. T. Cohn; for Colombo, Mrs. Breton Frost; for Penang, Mr. A. Mackie; for Singapore, Mr. Hankin; from Hongkong for London, Mr. T. Meek, Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart and family, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bennet and child, Mrs. Forbes and infant, Mr. E. W. Mitchell, Mrs. E. H. Parrish, Master Parrish; for Marseilles, Messrs. Stoken, G. Payne, C. H. V. Wilson and Dwight Gasper, Mr. and Mrs. Gershom Stewart; for Bombay, Lal. Singh; for Colombo, Rev. J. J. Bannings; for Singapore, Messrs. G. G. Franklin, J. Mercier and J. Higgins.

Per Empress of India, from Vancouver, &c., Mr. W. S. Moss; from Yokohama, Mrs. K. W. Savory, Mrs. G. N. Lamb, Mrs. Grant; from Kobe, Mr. O. L. Deloitte, Miss P. R. Deloitte; from Shanghai, Messrs. S. J. Lyons, N. Briggs, Major Chichester, T. Mizutani and Wishart.

Per Sachsen, for Hongkong from Genoa, Mr. Mrs. Wandra, Mr. and Mrs. O. Weber, Mr. Th. Ziegler; from Colombo, Major and Mrs. S. W. Miller; from Singapore, Messrs M. D. Neil, W. P. Okden, A. Finlay and J. McCall; for Shanghai from Southampton, Mrs. L. Dalmeny, Mrs. Stewart Lookhart; from Genoa, Mr. F. d. Gamburg, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Dipple, Messrs. E. F. Lance and John Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Kirchhoff, Messrs. John Thye and H. Bernick, Miss L. Leeliger, Mr. Hauser; from Naples, Mr. Paul Goldmacher, Capt. R. Maglissi, Capt. F. Marwede, Messrs. O. S. Bellavial, S. M. Roselli, R. Romanelli, F. Guglia, F. Peili and D. A. de Rixois; for Yokohama from Southampton, Miss Tripp; from Genoa, Mrs. L. Geiseler, Mr. Paul Kracke, Mr. and Mrs. P. Kraft, Messrs. Grossa, K. Iwakara, Sukamoto and Iwasaki, from Colombo, Mr. Herm. Schaeck, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Moore, Messrs. L. L. Dalton and E. Parburg, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Charley, Col. and Mrs. Craigie, for Nagasaki, Capt. B. Kanoff; for Yokohama from Singapore, Dr. Brett, Messrs K. A. Wieler, H. Dietrich, Theodor Kelli and F. Kallenberg, Major von Neobritz, Messrs. S. Ex. Untera, Mr. Fram Strneberg, Dr. K. Gluck, Messrs. W. Hapwood, W. Trautschold, H. C. Norman and C. Baring, Major General I. R. Jones, Misses Jones; from Penang, Miss L. Linger; for Hongkong from Southampton, Mrs. Shelly Brand; from Genoa, Messrs. Carl Steines, E. Albrecht, H. Schi ermann, H. Deselrook, E. Foster & M. Kretschmar; from Penang, Mr. A. D. Ross; for Shanghai from Hamburg, Miss M. Thiesen, Mr. G. T. Cortana, Miss Della Klath, Mrs. B. Schafer and child; from Antwerp Mr. Jules Evrard; from Southampton, Mr. W. C. Sinclair; from Genoa, Messrs. F. Denkhama and Gust Thiel; from Naples, Messrs. Carlo Caliola, G. Scala, S. Geronzi and A. Lucietto; from Genoa for Nagasaki, Mr. Lykkegaard; for Yokohama, Messrs. W. D. S. Edwards and P. G. Wurfel; for Nagasaki, from Penang, Mrs. T. Pliken, Messrs. Aki and Nakaro Tagoa; from Singapore, Mr. Oniki; for Yokohama, Jacques Balok, H. Price, T. H. Duguid, M. Paak, H. A. Wills and S. B. Wagener; for Hongkong from Southampton, Messrs. James Harper and W. S. McLean; from Penang, Mr. Z. Thapara; for Shanghai from Hamburg, Messrs. W. V. Schmittfink, Robert Fleige; from Genoa, Mr. Paolo Kansio; from Naples, from Colombo, Mr. A. Kristiel; from Singapore Messrs. H. Rayenberg and G. C. Morgan; from Antwerp for Kobe, Mr. Hirotsuka; from Colombo for Yokohama, for Nagasaki from Penang, Mr. Toshairo from Singapore, Messrs. Osaka and Osami; for Yokohama, Mr. Johnsen; from Genoa for Shanghai, Mr. W. Heylin.

DEPARTED.

Per Zafro, from Hongkong for Manila, Messrs. W. P. Craig, H. M. Crane, S. G. Gillett, Chas. E. Benson, F. F. Bunney and H. Oakes, Dr. L. R. Thompson, Dr. G. Malkin, Dr. S. C. Gurney, Messrs. S. N. Smith and W. D. Carpenter, Dr. Rositer, Mr. and Mrs. Maligen, Mr. T. Walker.

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